

VOL. XLVI. NO. 2

Michigan Regimental Round Table Newsletter—Page 1

February 2006

For the past ten consecutive years member Dr. Weldon Petz has entertained and educated the Michigan Regimental on a wide variety of subjects. Weldon, a nationally renown author, speaker, and scholar has a diversity of interests and fields of expertise: Abraham Lincoln, Big Bands of the World War II era, Santa Claus collecting, and baseball—to name a few. Nearly 5000 groups of professional historians, historical societies, Round Tables, and audiences from colleges through the lowest grades of public schools have been enthralled by Weldon's learned presentations.

This month—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27—Weldon will present "They Are Still Remembered": a tribute to Michigan's 415 Civil War monuments. Thousands of miles of travel to 467 cities from the Ohio border to the tip of the Upper Peninsula have given Weldon another field of prodigious knowledge. Slides and incredible stories will abound as Weldon describes, like no one else can, how Michigan has honored its Civil War heritage. Mark your calendars as a reminder to come see why Weldon has held audiences spellbound for over half a century. It's a talk you cannot miss!

* * * * *

Our thanks to seven MRRT members who participated in "Civil War Ancestors Night" last month:

Chuck DuCharme

Larry Hathcock

Larry Hathcock

Larry Jackson

John S. Cooper (107th Ohio Infantry)

William Torrance (5th Georgia Infantry)

Sgt. James Monroe Sandidge (Co. I, 3rd Louisiana Infantry)

Jerry Maxwell

Andrew Jackson Maxwell (21st and 22nd Consolidated Tenn. Cavalry)

Jerry Moore

Capt. Henry D. Moore (2nd Battalion, Missouri State Militia)

Lt. Sylvester D. Combes (10th Michigan Infantry)

Carroll Tietz

Johann Julius Tietz (Co. E, 1st Michigan Infantry)

Each speaker shined with enthusiasm for his relative's story, and from the audience's response, the night was a huge success.

ODDS & ENDS:

- **FALL FIELD TRIP**—Last month the membership agreed that our fall destination will be Spring Hill/Franklin/Stones River. We haven't toured these sites since 1996. Come to this month's meeting to <u>sign up</u> and get information on dates, hotel, restaurants, etc. [We also voted to go back to Gettysburg in the fall of 2007.]
- Accolades are in order for Al Oakes whose Annual History and Military Memorabilia Show was a winner. MRRT members Ron Cleveland, Larry Jackson, Howard and John Fundukian were among the many that had tables set up. Plenty of great items were available to buy and numerous displays were on hand as well. Make sure you attend next year. You'll have a great time.
- The Indiana Civil War Symposium will present "A Fresh Look at the Atlanta Campaign," on the weekend of April 21-23 in Madison, Indiana. Guest speakers will include: Richard McMurry (on the psyche and leadership ability of Joseph E. Johnston), John F. Marszalek (on the merits and leadership of William T. Sherman), Jim Lewis (on the Army of the Cumberland's role in this campaign), Jim Ogden (on the economic impact of Atlanta's fall to the Confederacy), Willie R. Johnson (on Sherman's worst battle—Kennesaw Mountain), and Keynote Speaker Edwin Bearss. Registration information is available from: Kathy Ayers 3121 Clifty Drive Madison, IN 47250-1644

VOL. XLVI. NO. 2

Michigan Regimental Round Table Newsletter—Page 2

February 2006

QUIZ: MONUMENTS AND MARKERS

- 1. Upside down cannons at Antietam mark the spots where generals were killed or mortally wounded. Name the 6 generals (3 from each side) who fell on the Civil War's bloodiest day.
- 2. Which noted Federal regiment, that took a record 82% casualties on the third day at Gettysburg, is honored with a monument on Cemetery Ridge? And, which famous sculptor created the masterpiece monument dedicated to the men of North Carolina on Seminary Ridge?
- 3. Nine miles from Shiloh Battlefield in Savannah, Tennessee a marker in front of a famous house that served as Grant's headquarters announces that two Federal generals died inside. Name the house. And, name the two generals.
- 4. A simple wooden marker alongside a railroad track reads GARESCHE FELL HERE. Name the battlefield. And, which general did the brains and blood of Julius Garesche splatter?
- 5. Just over a mile from the entrance to the Battlefield Park at Vicksburg, a monument commemorates the heroics of a Michigan unit. Name the unit. And, name the commander of this unit, from Hudson, Michigan, mentioned on the monument that was mortally wounded here.
- 6. Which mortally wounded colonel from Dexter, Michigan is depicted carrying a flag on the 4th Michigan Infantry monument at Gettysburg? And, which state monument at Gettysburg is engraved at the base: "_____Your Names Are Inscribed On Fame's Immortal Scroll"?
- 7. A simple stone marks the spot where Stonewall Jackson's left arm rests. Name the Chaplain who took Jackson's arm for burial and near which home is it buried?
- 8. Which U.S. marine, a double Medal of Honor winner, removed Jackson's arm from the ground in 1921? And, which President and First Lady were present for this unusual ceremony?
- 9. Which Eastern battlefield has a bricked-in square with the graves of 54 Union soldiers—53 unknown and 1 known (James Allen)? And, which friend of Abraham Lincoln has a marker here commemorating his death on October 21, 1861?
- 10. Which newly-created Federal regiment that ignominiously ran from swarming bees has a monument to its honor in "Bloody Lane" at Antietam? And, which future U.S. President, who was merely a coffee sergeant, has a rather imposing monument in the vicinity of Burnside Bridge?

* * * * *

Sixty-seven-year-old Fountain Branch Carter of Franklin, Tennessee had fathered twelve children, three of whom joined the Confederate service. Now on Wednesday, November 30, 1864, a battle raged in the town and on the premises of his home. Mr. Carter reluctantly decided to remain at his home with his remaining family. His son, Moscow, four daughters, one daughter-in-law, and nine grandchildren under the age of twelve, huddled together in the cellar of his stately home on Columbia Avenue. Another grandchild, eleven-year-old Lena, was found upstairs searching for her doll. She, too, was hurried into the cellar. They were soon joined by a neighbor and his family. In all, twenty-four people had clustered into the storage area.

Outside, Fountain Carter's 24-year-old son, <u>Theodrick "Tod" Carter</u>, a captain on the staff of Brigadier General Thomas B. Smith, was only yards away from the homestead with a portion of the Confederate army. He would soon be fighting on his father's property. Mounted on his large gray horse, "*Rosencrantz*," with his saber drawn, Tod Carter prepared to assist in a charge with the 20th Tennessee Infantry. Leading the assault against the Yankees, Tod rode forward. His horse was hit repeatedly and Tod was thrown over the animal's neck to the ground. The young Carter had been hit twice by enemy fire—once severely in the head. He lay there, fully conscious, knowing the wounds were serious. Unable to



VOL. XLVI, NO. 2

Michigan Regimental Round Table Newsletter—Page 3

February 2006

crawl, he lay helpless merely 525 feet southwest of his home. For hours Tod Carter, occasionally delirious, called for help.

When the battle finally halted, the 24 occupants of the Carter cellar emerged into the moonlight. Brigadier General Thomas Smith B. Smith rode up and asked for Fountain Carter. His news was ominous; Fountain's son was known to be grievously wounded and nearby. Hurriedly, the old man and some of his family searched the locust grove carrying lanterns. They found him in delirium. They carried him on an army overcoat past the bullet-ridden farm office building and placed him in the debris-littered family room. Dr. Deering Roberts, the 20th Tennessee's surgeon, probed for the bullet embedded above Tod's eye. Dr. Roberts' efforts were futile, and he announced to the family that young Tod's life would soon end. Bending above his prostrate form, several of his sisters cleansed the wound. Tears stained their cheeks, and one whispered softly, "Brother's come home at last."

QUIZ ANSWERS:

- 1. Federals: Israel Richardson, Isaac Rodman, and Joseph K.F. Mansfield (all mortally wounded). Confederates: Lawrence O'Brien Branch and William E. Starke (killed), George B. Anderson (mortally wounded)
- 2. 1st Minnesota Infantry and Gutzon Borglum
- 3. William H. Cherry Mansion and C.F. (Charles Ferguson) Smith and William H.L. Wallace
- 4. Stones River and William S. Rosecrans
- 5. 8th Michigan Artillery and Captain Samuel DeGolyer
- 6. Harrison Jefferds and "Alabamians"
- 7. Tucker Lacy and "Ellwood"
- 8. Smedley Butler and Warren and Florence Harding
- 9. Ball's Bluff and Col. Edward D. Baker of the 71st Pennsylvania
- 10. 132nd Pennsylvania Infantry and William McKinley

* * * * *

A final reminder to attend this month's meeting on **MONDAY**, **FEBRUARY 27**, as **Dr. Weldon Petz** will present "*They Are Still Remembered*." It's a special program from an incomparable speaker. The meeting will begin at 6:30 P.M. at the Farmington Public Library (Grand River and Farmington Road). Come early and get a good seat.

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