



On **MONDAY, JULY 25**, you are invited to put your thinking caps on as Don Garlit will present “*A Numeric and Statistical Analysis of the Antebellum Period and the American Civil War, 1790-1865.*” This talk, one that we have never remotely come close to duplicating, will be based heavily on numbers, yet will be presented with clear and basic graphs to demonstrate important points.

The program will be comprised of several parts beginning with a discussion of population trends resulting in changes to the Congress, Presidency, and Supreme Court. Various aspects of slavery will be looked at including location and movement of slaves to various states. The polarizing Election of 1860 will be briefly scrutinized along with potential reasons for secession. The Civil War itself will come under examination including Southern advantages as well as aspects of the fighting including number of enlistments, select battles, and casualties. The talk will also include a numerical analysis of the opposing generals to determine skill levels of the leadership of both sides, which could lead to some controversial discussion.

As Don says, “*Hopefully, this varied talk will change the minds of those who have been bored by statistics in the past. They may find that numbers can be fun!*”

Former MRRT President and member since October, 1984, Don spent over 25 years in functions including finance, sales, contracts, and program management with several defense and automobile companies. Now retired, he spends a good portion of his time volunteering with history and animal-related sheltering groups. He also describes himself as a somewhat conflicted person being a graduate of Michigan State, Ohio State, and the University of Michigan in that order.

Mark your calendars now—**MONDAY, JULY 25**—and be prepared to do something cerebral!

**FALL FIELD TRIP:** Our Annual Fall Field Trip is scheduled for Saturday/Sunday, October 22-23. We will gather on Friday, October 21 at the Hilton Springfield [700 East Adams St.—217-789-1530] at 7:30 P.M. The Saturday night dinner will be at Maldaner’s Restaurant [222 S. Sixth St.—217-522-4313].

Our itinerary for the two weekend days includes tours of the Old State Capital, the Abraham Lincoln House, the Lincoln-Herndon Law Office, the Lincoln Tomb/Oak Ridge Cemetery, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, and New Salem.

All of the essential details will be provided at this month’s meeting by Jeanie Graham. Her home phone number in case you cannot make this month’s meeting is 248-851-9320.

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**Our thanks to those who participated in last month’s SHOW & TELL PROGRAM.** Eight people brought in a Civil War item to share with the group. We especially thank **Chuck DuCharme** (for the items from his ancestor, **John Snider Cooper**), **John Fundukian** (1849 Colt pistol and a 1914 application for a Southern Cross of Honor), **Gene Kramer** (a box of three components which may have been used by ammunition or stagecoach business), **Hudson Mead** (Russell Alger’s engraved pocket watch), **Jack Redick** (ancestor’s pension paper work), **Ken Baumann** (5” Sawyer shell fired by the Union navy at Fort Powell in Mobile Bay), **Ron Cleveland** (bloodied uniform jacket owned by Philip Preston Johnston who served as a captain in John Pelham’s Horse Artillery), and **Carroll Tietz** (bayonet that belonged to his great-grandfather from Co. E of the First Michigan Infantry). Our thanks to all of you.



### QUIZ: Civil War Numbers.....

1. According to the Census of 1860, which 3 Northern Free States had the most Freed Blacks?
2. And, which 3 Slave States had the most Freed Blacks?
3. What percentage of Union generals were killed in action or mortally wounded?
4. What percentage of Confederate generals were killed or mortally wounded?
5. What percentage of Northern prisoners died at Andersonville Prison in Georgia?
6. What percentage of Southern prisoners died at Elmira Prison in New York?
7. Of the 10,455 military actions during the Civil War, which three states totaled the most?
8. Of the Confederacy's three Army Corps at Gettysburg, which suffered the most casualties?
9. How many casualties did the state of Michigan suffer at Gettysburg? And, what percentage of its troops were lost there?
10. How many men served in Michigan's armed forces during the war? And how many died?

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### Some gruesome tales from the aftermath of Gettysburg.....

Nurse Sophronia Bucklin made some observations from around the Culp's Hill area. *“Earlier in life it would have been almost impossible for me to walk over such a field of horror, but I had grown familiar with death in every shape. Yet, when right above my head....so close that it touched me, hung a sleeve of faded army blue—a dead hand protruding from the worn and blackened cuff—I could not but feel a momentary shutter. Boots, with a foot and leg putrifying within, lay beside the pathway, and ghastly heads, too—over the exposed skulls of which insects crawled—while great worms bored through the rotting eyeballs. Astride a tree sat a bloody horror, with head and limbs severed by shells, the birds having banqueted on it, while the tattered uniform, stained with gore, fluttered dismally in the summer air.”*

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Private Robert Carter of Massachusetts left this description of what he had witnessed. *“Corpses strewed the ground at every step. Arms, legs, heads, and parts of dismembered bodies were scattered all about, and sticking among the rocks, and against the trunks of trees, hair, brains, entrails, and shreds of human flesh still hung, a disgusting, sickening, heartrending spectacle....It was indeed a butcher's pen—with man as the victim. One man had as many as twenty canister or case shots through different parts of his body, though none through a vital organ, and he was still gasping and twitching with a slight motion of his muscles, and vibrations of the pulse, although utterly unconscious of approaching death.”*

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Near midnight of July 3, Private John Haley of Maine stood on picket duty. He later wrote: *“The dead lay everywhere, and although not a half day has passed since they died, the stench is so great that we can neither eat, drink, nor sleep. Decomposition commences as soon as life is extinct....The dead are frightfully smashed, which is not to be wondered at when we consider how they crowded up onto our guns, a mass of humanity, only to be hurled back an undistinguishable pile of mutilated flesh, rolling and writhing in death. No tongue can depict the carnage, and I cannot make it seem real: men's heads blown off or split open; horrible gashes cut; some split from the top of the head to the extremities, as butchers split beef.”*



One unnamed writer of the 6th New Jersey Infantry wrote of his experiences on a typical burial detail. Moving through the darkness with only the dim light of a lantern, he suddenly tripped. As he fell, his hand came in contact with the cold forehead of a corpse. *“My feet rested on another body, and my lantern was out. I felt for a match. I had none. But presently some of the men came up; the lantern was relighted, and the glare revealed a sight which I pray God my eyes may never look upon again. The body upon which my hand had fallen was that of a corporal; both legs were blown completely off. That over which I had stumbled was the body of a private with one arm severed, not entirely off, at the shoulder....Within a circle of twenty feet....I counted seventeen bodies. How we buried these seventeen bodies you would not care to know.”*

### QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. Pennsylvania (56,849), New York (49,005), Ohio (36,664)
2. Virginia (58,042), North Carolina (30,463), Louisiana (18,647)
3. 8%--47 were killed or died of wounds, and 18 died of disease or accidents
4. 18%--77 were killed or mortally wounded and 15 more died of disease or accidents
5. 27%
6. 44%
7. Virginia (2154), Tennessee (1462), Missouri (1162)
8. A.P. Hill's Third Corps (8007), James Longstreet's First Corps (7661), Richard Ewell's Second Corps (6603)
9. Michigan lost 1111 or 41.9%
10. 87,364—14,753 deaths or 16.9%. Of these 4448 were killed (30.1%). 8269 died of disease (56.0%), and 2036 died of other causes (13.9%)

This month's meeting should be a humdinger! **Don Garlit** will present *“A Numeric and Statistical Analysis of the Antebellum Period and the American Civil War, 1790-1865.”* Circle the date—**MONDAY, JULY 25**. The meeting will start at 6:30 P.M. at the Farmington Public Library (Grand River at Farmington Road).

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

*Old Sarge*