Speakers Bureau

2022 — 2023
Welcome to Emerging Civil War’s 2022-2023 Speakers Bureau

Since our founding in the summer of 2011, we have offered hundreds of talks to Roundtables, Historical Societies, and other groups interested in Civil War history—and we look forward to the chance to work with you.

Our historians come from a wide variety of backgrounds and have a wide variety of interests, so hopefully you’ll find something here that will be of interest to your group.

Our brochure features background information on each speaker as well as a listing of the programs they’ll each offer this season…virtually and in-person.

We have several new additions to our line-up this year, and many of our speakers have added new talks, so be sure to take a look.

Of course, many old favorites are here, as well.

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Please Note: Some of our historians are not listed in this year’s brochure because they are unavailable for speaking engagements.

On the Cover: The Illinois monument at Kennesaw Mountain’s “Dead Angle”
How to Book Our Speakers

To book one of our speakers, please let us know who you’re interested in contacting and which program you’re interested in. (You may contact more than one speaker at a time.)

Please also provide the following information:

- When your meetings are
- What dates you have available
- What travel accommodations your group provides
- What honorarium your group offers
- Any other information you believe would be helpful

Each speaker is responsible for finalizing all of the agreed upon details for him/herself and will contact your group liaison directly to work out all scheduling, travel accommodations, and other arrangements.

If there’s a particular topic you’re interested in but don’t see in the brochure, feel free to inquire and we’ll do our best to accommodate your request. Likewise, you may see a story that interests you on our blog by one of our authors; we’d be happy to pass along those inquiries, as well.

Please note that we do our best to fulfill all speaker requests, but due to travel limitations and scheduling conflicts, we may not be able to fulfill your request. Flexibility is appreciated.

To book one of our speakers, feel free to email us at emergingcivilwar@gmail.com
Battlefield Guide Services

Many of our speakers are available for private tours of a wide array of battlefields and historic sites from the Revolutionary War through the World Wars. Guided tour services are offer including but not limited to:

- Antietam
- Bentonville
- Brandy Station
- Bristoe Station
- Chancellorsville
- Chattanooga
- Chickamauga
- Fredericksburg
- Manassas
- Mine Run
- New Market
- Perryville
- Richmond Area Battlefields
- Shiloh
- Spotsylvania
- The Wilderness
- And many more…

We can accommodate individuals, small groups, and busses. For large groups visiting the Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania area, we can also make arrangements for catered meals on the battlefield as part of your tour.

To book one of our tour guides, feel free to email us at emergingcivilwar@gmail.com
A native of Wisconsin, Paige Gibbons Backus graduated from the University of Mary Washington with a bachelor’s degree in Historic Preservation, and George Mason University with a master’s degree in Applied History. She has been in the public history field for close to ten years focusing on educational programming and operations working at several historic sites throughout Northern Virginia. She currently serves Prince William County as the Historic Site Manager at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre and Lucasville School.

When out of the office, Paige spends her time serving on the board of the Virginia Association of Museums, exploring, or researching her interests which include women’s history, as well as the more morbid side of history such as death, disease, medicine, or crime. Her published works include Witness to Peace and Strife: The History of Ben Lomond in Manassas, Virginia, as well as well as numerous articles published for a variety of publications such as Emerging Civil War, Virginia Association of Museum’s Voice Magazine, Civil War Traveler, and Prince William Living. She lives in Manassas, Virginia, with her husband, Bill, and their dog Bernard.
Revealing the Chaos and Carnage of the Hospitals of First Manassas
The Battle of First Manassas on July 21, 1861 resulted in about 3,500 casualties in the span of less than twenty-four hours. The first major battle of the Civil War revealed how unprepared the armies were to handle the wounded. After the battle, the horror continued in numerous hospitals throughout the area. Explore the various hospitals established after the battle and how historians are able to use the limited primary resources available to learn about this facet of the Civil War.

The Deadliest Enemy: Disease during the Civil War
Since the beginning of the Civil War, disease was a critical problem among the armies of both North and South. By the war’s end, 2/3 of the soldiers who died during the fighting, died from disease instead of battle wounds. Learn about why disease was such a big issue, what diseases swept through the regiments, their causes, and the treatments used to try and cure the soldiers.

Unheralded Heroines: Women during the Civil War
With war erupting in 1861, women were faced with unimaginable challenges and oppournities that had a lasting effect on history. For many left behind at home, their roles began to change for the first time in generations. Many others decided to leave their homes as refugees or to become organizers and members in relief societies, nurses, and more. The roles women were thrown into during war made them unlikely pioneers for women's rights. Explore women’s roles and reactions to the Civil War and how they impacted modern women’s rights.

Dr. Jonathan Letterman’s Plan that Changed Military Medicine
After becoming the Medical Director of the Army of the Potomac in July 1862, Dr. Jonathan Letterman immediately set to work improving the medical system for the Union Army. Serving as
Director during a crucial year which included the single bloodiest day of the war at Antietam, as well as the Battles of Second Manassas and Fredericksburg. By the end of 1862, Letterman had enacted a series of policies from triage, ambulances, staffing, and more that eventually became known as the Letterman Plan which forever changed military medicine as we know it today. Learn about the man and the events that helped shape the Letterman Plan that is still in use 160 years after the war.
Sarah Kay Bierle (pronounced “BUY-early”) graduated from Thomas Edison State University with a BA in History, serves as managing editor at Emerging Civil War, and works in the Education Department at American Battlefield Trust. She has spent years exploring ways to share quality historical research in ways that will inform and inspire modern audiences, including school presentations, writing, and speaking engagements. Sarah has published three historical fiction books and her first nonfiction book, Call Out The Cadets: The Battle of New Market, is part of the Emerging Civil War series. She is currently working on a short biography of John Pelham for the Emerging Civil War series.

Bierle is experienced with virtual presentations and willing to work with Civil War Round Tables and historical groups to explore this option.

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A City at War: Richmond, Virginia, in 1863
Richmond, Virginia, was the capital of the Confederacy, but it was
also a city facing internal civic and societal conflicts and dilemmas. This presentation takes a closer look at some important events in Richmond’s mid-war history from Jackson’s funeral, military triumphs and losses, political wrangling, explosive tragedy, slave trade, and independent roles for women. (45-50 minutes. Powerpoint images available.)

**A Tale of Two Artillerymen: Robert Beckham and Justin Dimick at Chancellorsville**
The Confederate artilleryman who had to take John Pelham’s place as commander of the Stuart Horse Artillery? A kid who got kicked out of West Point TWICE and still graduated? This presentation delves into the personal stories of Robert Beckham and Justin Dimick, then examines their artillery batteries and their decisions to fire along the Orange Turnpike during the Battle of Chancellorsville. Though on opposing sides, these young artillerymen’s stories remind us that history is about real people and takes a closer look at the common threads connecting their stories on the battlefield. (50 minutes, Powerpoint available)

**Awakened Hearts: The Power & Patriotism of Civilians**
In 1861, America was going to war. Citizen armies were formed, and a frenzy of patriotism influenced both the civilian men going to war and those left at home. Following the history of the 1st Minnesota Regiment and the 2nd Virginia Regiment, this presentation explores multiple aspects of the civilian response at the beginning of the war and how they dealt with the realities of war. (45-50 min. Powerpoint images available)

**From California to Gettysburg: The Hancock Family**
In 1858, Winfield and Almira Hancock and their two children moved to California. As a U.S. Army officer, Winfield S. Hancock’s duties had taken the family to several remote outposts, but their time in California would be some of their most memorable days. The American Civil War began while the Hancocks were in California, and this conflict presented challenging choices. Their decision—
made in California would impact one of the great battles of the war. *(45-50 min. Powerpoint images available)*

**From Virginia to California:**  
**VMI, The Battle of New Market, & The Post War Lives of 8 Cadets**  
Connecting east coast and west coast history, this presentation examines the experience of cadets at Virginia Military Institute during the Civilian, the corps’ role in the Battle of New Market on May 15, 1864, and how veteran cadets sought new opportunities and used their leadership skills in the Golden State. *(45-50 min. Powerpoint images available)*

**John Pelham’s Fall & The Rise of a Confederate Legend**  
On March 17, 1863, Major John Pelham—commander of the Stuart Horse Artillery—fell off his horse mortally wounded. That day at Kelly’s Ford marked the end of his short life and the beginning of his memory and influential legends. This presentation explores the experiences of the twenty-four-year-old officer, his battlefield tactics and innovations, and how he rose to fame during his life and even more after his death. *(50 minutes with PowerPoint)*

**The New Market Campaign**  
How did the armies get to New Market for the battle on May 15, 1864? What were the objectives of the campaign? How did the campaign and battle fit into the overall strategic plans for the war in Virginia? This presentation delves deeper in the New Market Campaign and reexamines its challenges and outcomes beyond the famous battle. *(45-50 min. Powerpoint images available)*

**Then Christmas Came:**  
**The Justification & Condemnation of War in 1862**  
In 1862, devastating battles shocked Americans. The end of the war wasn’t in sight. The Battle of Fredericksburg was the capstone for fighting in the east; it ended days before Christmas, leaving soldiers and civilians stunned by the casualties. With the “season of peace and good cheer” upon them, Americans tried to reconcile their war
and beliefs. Ultimately, they found ways to justify or condemn the strife, setting the stage for more conflict in coming years. *(45-50 minutes. Powerpoint images available.)*

**Sigel & Breckinridge: Lessons in Leadership from the Battle of New Market**
Two generals, two different life stories, and one battlefield where they clashed. This presentation examines the lives and experiences of Union General Franz Sigel and Confederate John C. Breckinridge and how their leadership styles and decisions changed history on a rainy afternoon near the crossroads town of New Market on May 15, 1864. *(45-50 min. Powerpoint images available)*

**Survival: Medical Care During the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaigns**
How did Civil War medicine in theory actually perform “in the field”? This presentation uses the New Market Campaign, Lynchburg Campaign, and Autumn Campaign as a lens to explore medical practices and follows common soldiers and surgeons through their experiences. *(45-50 min. Powerpoint images available)*

**“We’re the boys who rode around McClellan”: The Chambersburg Raid of 1862**
For the second time in one year, General J.E.B. Stuart rode around General George McClellan’s army. This presentation explores details of the route, logistics, and the military implications for both sides caused by the raid. *(45-50 minutes. Powerpoint images available.)*

**What If Rienzi Stumbled? A Different Look at the Battle of Cedar Creek**
(Developed for the Emerging Civil War Symposium 2022) If you’re interested in the Battle of Cedar Creek or like a little bit of “what if” with your history, this program is for you! Was Union General Sheridan actually the deciding factor in the famous Shenandoah Valley battle? This presentation takes a “boots on the ground” look at the factual, historical battlefield situation on October 19, 1864, up
to the point when Sheridan arrived...but then goes into the realms of realistic possibilities about what might have happened if Sheridan never came. *(45-50 minutes, Powerpoint available)*

**William Francis Bartlett: Civil War Leadership & Its Personal Costs**

This biographical presentation explores the life, leadership, and medical history of William Francis Bartlett. He enlisted from Harvard into the 20th Massachusetts Regiment, first came under fire at Ball’s Bluff, and was active in regimental leadership until he was badly wounded near Yorktown in 1862. After losing a leg, he was determined to return to active duty and served briefly in the Western Theater, commanding the 49th Massachusetts Regiment, then returned east for the Overland Campaign. The presentation delves into the personal sacrifices and leadership decisions that Bartlett made during his Civil War service and how the effects of war ultimately led to his early death in 1876. *(50 minutes, Powerpoint available)*
Neil P. Chatelain specializes in researching naval operations of the U.S. Civil War. Born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana, Neil spent nine years as a U.S. Navy Surface Warfare Officer, both on active duty and in the reserves. Neil is a graduate of the University of New Orleans, the University of Houston, and the University of Louisiana–Monroe. He lives in the greater Houston area, teaching at both Lone Star College–North Harris and Carl Wunsche Sr. High School. He is the author of Defending the Arteries of Rebellion: Confederate Naval Operations in the Mississippi River Valley, 1861-1865 and Fought Like Devils: The Confederate Gunboat McRae.

Learn more at www.neilpchatelain.com.

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Ambitions and Challenges of a Confederate Navy European Ironclad Squadron
To break the blockade, secure a steady stream of international
supplies, and attain international recognition, the Confederate sought
to acquire and deploy a naval squadron of powerful European-built
ironclads. Using diplomacy, deception, and a small team of naval
officers and agents, the Confederacy secured contracts for ironclads
and wooden steamers built in yards across Europe. The United States
retaliated with their own agents, seeking to withhold their delivery,
successfully preventing the realization of such a naval force.

Defending the Arteries of Rebellion
Most studies of the Mississippi River overlook Confederate attempts
to maintain control over this internal highway. Confederate strategy
called for fortifications supported by naval forces. A lack of industrial
capacity, coupled with a dearth of skilled labor, complicated these
efforts. Nevertheless, the Confederacy introduced numerous
innovations and alternate defenses to control the Mississippi River
valley including their first operational ironclad, the first successful
use of underwater torpedoes, widespread use of Army-Navy joint
operations, and the employment of extensive river obstructions.

Fought Like Devils: The Confederate Gunboat McRae
The flagship of the Confederate Navy’s Mississippi River Squadron,
CSS McRae, was one of the country’s first warships. Manned by
some of the Confederacy’s most experienced officers, the vessel and
its crew fought from the Mississippi River’s mouth to Columbus,
Kentucky, including at Ship Island, the Battle of the Head of Passes,
the Siege of Island Number Ten, and the Battle of Forts Jackson and
Saint Philip, where the vessel was crippled and soon after lost.

Lost Silver of the Benjamin F. Hoxie
In March 1863, CSS Florida captured and burned the U.S.-flagged
merchant Benjamin F. Hoxie. Unlike other ships captured by
Confederate commerce raiders, this merchant was packed with
Pacific-coast silver. Florida’s crew quickly transferred the silver to
their own vessel, taking it to Bermuda so it could be forwarded to
agents for use supporting the Confederate war effort, but the silver
was lost thanks to conflicting reports, court challenges, and postwar
claims. Come along on this journey across the northern Atlantic hunting for this lost Civil War treasure.

**Postwar Identity Crisis of the Confederate Navy’s Officer Corps**
At the end of the Civil War, a large percentage of Confederate naval officers were excluded from receiving a wartime pardon from President Andrew Johnson. Facing this postwar challenge, as well as the loss of careers at sea, one-third of the Confederate Navy’s commissioned line officers rejected U.S. reconstruction policies by challenging them directly through postwar writings and activity, or by leaving the South and working in foreign navies, organizing filibustering expeditions, or living abroad in exile.

**The Panamá Route in the U.S. Civil War**
A vital component of the U.S. war effort during its Civil War was a secure economy backed by a continuous flow of bullion along the Panamá route. Gold and silver from California and the western territories was transported by sea from San Francisco to Panamá, across the isthmus, and thence to New York, stabilizing Lincoln’s economy and limiting wartime inflation. Confederate efforts at sea, including privateers, commerce raiders, and teams of naval agents fought to interdict this supply line, all while the United States used diplomatic agents, naval convoys, and its own intelligence to keep this vital route open.
Sean Michael Chick graduated from University of New Orleans with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Communications and from Southeastern Louisiana University with a Master of Arts in History. He currently works in New Orleans, leading historic tours of his hometown and helping residents and visitors appreciate the city’s past.

Chick has presented at various Civil War Round Tables. He has published *The Battle of Petersburg, June 15-218, 1864* (2015), *Grant’s Left Hook: The Bermuda Hundred Campaign* (2021), and *Dreams of Victory: P.G.T. Beauregard in the Civil War* (2022). He is currently working on books for the Emerging Civil War Series on the battle of Nashville, and the Port Hudson, Petersburg, and Tullahoma campaigns. He is also writing *The Maps of Shiloh* with Bradley M. Gottfried. Chick has also been involved in historic board game development and design since 2011, including the Horse & Musket
Chick’s research interests include P.G.T. Beauregard, the Petersburg Campaign, Shiloh, Civil War memory, New Orleans during the Civil War, the Army of Tennessee, and Civil War tactics in relation to linear tactics from 1685-1866.

Sean Chick is easily available for tours in New Orleans and talks in the Gulf Coast region, but he can travel to other places around the country.

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Creole General: P.G.T. Beauregard
Few Civil War generals attracted as much debate and controversy as Pierre Gustav Toutant Beauregard. He combined brilliance and charisma with arrogance and histrionics. He was a Catholic Creole in a society dominated by white Protestants, which made him appear exotic next to the likes of Albert Sidney Johnston and Robert E. Lee. He was reviled by Jefferson Davis and often mocked by Mary Chesnut in her diary. Yet, he was popular with his soldiers and subordinates. Outside of Lee, he was the South’s most consistently successful army commander. Yet, he lived his life in the shadow of his one major defeat: Shiloh. After the war he was a successful railroad executive and took a stand against racism, violence, and corruption during Reconstruction. Yet, he was ousted from both railroads he oversaw and his foray into Reconstruction politics came to naught. His was a life of contradictions and dreams unrealized.

Louisiana Regiments at Shiloh
Over 6,000 Louisiana men fought at Shiloh, more than at any other battle of the war. They were the most diverse regiments in the Confederacy. Some took their orders in Creole French, while other units were made up almost entirely of Irish, German, and other nationalities. Cajuns and men from the pinewood region were also common. The regiments included the wealthy elite and dock-workers from the dangerous wharfs of the Mississippi River. They also had diverse experiences at Shiloh, including many friendly fire...
incidents and hopeless charges. These regiments formed the corps of 2 brigades which saw service on both sides of the Mississippi.

**Grant’s Left Hook: The Bermuda Hundred Campaign**

In 1864 Ulysses S. Grant initially wanted to follow a strategy similar to George McClellan's Peninsula Campaign. Realizing it was not what the Republican politicians wanted, Grant compromised and sent the 40,000 man Army of the James under the command of Benjamin Butler to stop the flow of reinforcements and capture Richmond if possible. Despite initial success, Butler was defeated by P.G.T. Beauregard in one of the South’s last major strategic victories.

**The Battle of Petersburg, June 15-18, 1864**

The final act of Grant’s Overland Campaign was his drive to capture Petersburg. Despite having a numerical superiority that at one point was 5 to 1, Grant and his generals failed to take the city in four days of heavy fighting, resulting in a long siege that put Abraham Lincoln’s reelection in jeopardy. The reasons for the defeat were exhaustion from hard fighting, a decimated officer corps, the extreme heat, and the generalship of P.G.T. Beauregard.

**“They Came Only To Die”: The Battle of Nashville**

On the cold hills south of Nashville an ad hoc Union army led by George Thomas smashed John Bell Hood’s Army of Tennessee. The battle and subsequent pursuit destroyed the Confederacy’s western field army as a major force. Nashville, combined with Sherman’s March and Appomattox, ensured the Civil War would end before summer 1865. Often forgotten due to Ulysses Grant's antipathy towards Thomas, and the fact that most of the battlefield is under suburban sprawl, Nashville was decisive and marked Thomas as one of the war’s top tacticians.

**Ulysses S. Grant as Military Commander**

Proclaimed as either a drunk butcher or a military genius, Grant has always attracted praise and condemnation. Lost is the nuance of Grant’s personality and abilities. He combined a good grasp of
strategy and operational maneuver with a dogged determination. In terms of logistics and his weakness for alcohol, he improved as the war went on. Yet, he was tactically deficient, preferred loyal commanders to capable ones, and lacked battlefield charisma. The portrait emerges of a highly talented but flawed commander, worthy of praise and study but not the current rash of hagiography.

“Only the Flag of the Union Greets the Sky”:
Northern Generals and the Just Cause
Among scholars it is commonly believed that until recently the memory of the Civil War was dominated by the Lost Cause, leading many to erroneously think the South “lost the war but won the peace.” The North though did create a separate vision of the war, which I dubbed the Just Cause. It emphasized nationalism, patriotism, unification on Northern terms, and free labor. This memory was for a long time the creed of America and has a complicated legacy. Much of the creed was forged by Union generals such as Ulysses S. Grant, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, William Tecumseh Sherman, and Abner Doubleday.

The American Civil War in the Age of Horse & Musket
Often thought of as the first “modern” war, the American Civil War was among the last in which linear tactics were used. Only in 1866 were rapid fire weapons used in mass in the Austro-Prussian War, which led to a true revolution in tactics. The battles of the Civil War had more in common with Fontenoy than with Verdun, making it less a transition and more the last bow of a mode of fighting that had dominated the western world since roughly 1685.

New Orleans During the Civil War
No other Southern city was as large, diverse, and prosperous as New Orleans. As such, the war experience was varied and the population was divided. This tour of the city covers major events from the granulation of sugar cane, to secession, capture, and occupation. The city’s varied and complicated wartime experience are covered, as is the fate of its men who wore blue and gray and went off to fight in faraway places.
A Walk Among the Tombs
New Orleans is known for its cemeteries, and those related to the Civil War are no exception. No other city save Richmond has so many Confederate generals and soldiers buried in the city, although several notable Union soldiers are also entombed. This tour is flexible, and can cover burials in Metairie, St. Louis No. 3, and Greenwood Cemeteries. Among the burials discussed are P.G.T. Beauregard, John Bell Hood, Richard Taylor, William Mumford, P.B.S. Pinchback, and society tombs for veterans of the Confederate army.
Doug Crenshaw studied history at Randolph-Macon College and the University of Richmond. A volunteer for the Richmond National Battlefield Park, he is a Board member of the Richmond Battlefield Association, past president of the Richmond Civil War Roundtable, and is a speaker, presenter and tour leader. His book, Fort Harrison and The Battle of Chaffin’s Farm, was nominated in the non-fiction category for a Library of Virginia Literary award. Doug has also written The Battle of Glendale: Robert E. Lee’s Lost Opportunity, and Richmond Shall not be Given Up! a survey and tour of the Seven Days campaign, which was a finalist for the Army Historical Foundation Distinguished writing award. Doug has just completed a guidebook on Civil War Richmond with Bert Dunkerly, a book on the Peninsula Campaign with Drew Gruber, and is also working on a study about the Seven Days.
Richmond Shall Not Be Given Up! *(Battlefield Tour)*
The Seven Days were a key turning point of the Civil War. Join Doug in a tour of the battlefields, several of which have received major new additions. You can now walk the land where Confederates such as Longstreet, A. P. Hill, Hood, Ewell and D.H. Hill attacked at Gaines’ Mill. Malvern Hill has grown by several hundred acres, and the entire battlefield can be viewed in pristine condition. Occasional tours are available at Glendale, and the battlefield that has recently been saved in almost its entirety. Side trips to other spots, such as Drewry’s Bluff and Seven Pines are available.

The Battles at Chaffin’s Farm *(Battlefield Tour)*
In September 1864 Ben Butler launched a surprise attack north of the James and might have captured Richmond. Why did he fail? This tour will reveal the fascinating story, as well as visit the impressive preserved works of Forts Harrison, Gilmer, Johnson, Hoke and Federal Fort Brady.

Cold Harbor *(Battlefield Tour)*
Was Grant really the butcher he has been painted to be? Come visit Cold Harbor and learn the answer. This battlefield is much larger than the preserved areas, even with the excellent and continuing recent additions. Along with to the June 3 battle, see where the critical June 1 action occurred. If you choose, visit the unpreserved sites of Yellow Tavern, Bethesda Church and others.
David Dixon earned his M.A. in history from the University of Massachusetts in 2003. His first book, *The Lost Gettysburg Address*, tells the unusual life story of Texas slaveholder Charles Anderson, whose unpublished speech followed Lincoln’s at Gettysburg. It turned up 140 years later in a cardboard box in Wyoming. David’s second book, published by the University of Tennessee Press, is a biography of German revolutionary and Union General August Willich and highlights the contributions of approximately 200,000 German-American immigrants to the Union effort in the Civil War.

David has given hundreds of talks to audiences across the country, including to more than 70 different Civil War round tables. He spoke at Gettysburg National Military Park’s Sacred Trust Talks in 2016, appeared on Civil War Talk Radio, and has been a guest on dozens of podcasts. He hosts B-List History, a website that features obscure characters and their compelling stories. You may download free pdf versions of his published articles at www.davidtdixon.com.
David’s most popular talks include:

- The Lost Gettysburg Address: Charles Anderson’s Civil War Odyssey
- August Willich’s Civil War: Radical, International Revolution
- The Wealthiest Slave in Savannah
- Emotions and Allegiance: The Dilemma of a Southern Union Man
- The Black Experience in Civil War Georgia
- Freedom Gained, Equality Denied: New Hampshire’s Free Black Community

Custom talks may be arranged with advance booking. David often bundles talks to large and small groups in close proximity within a two-week window to minimize shared travel expenses. Contact him at davedixonhistory@gmail.com.
Robert “Bert” Dunkerly is a historian, award-winning author, and speaker who is actively involved in historic preservation and research. He holds a degree in History from St. Vincent College and a Masters in Historic Preservation from Middle Tennessee State University. He has worked at twelve historic sites and written seventeen books. His research includes archaeology, colonial life, military history, and historic commemoration. Dunkerly is currently a Park Ranger at Richmond National Battlefield Park. He served as president of the Richmond Civil War Round Table and serves on the Preservation Committee of the American Revolution Round Table-Richmond. He has visited more than 500 battlefields and more than 1,000 historic sites worldwide.

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Battlefield Preservation
I am fascinated by memory and how historic sites are commemorated.
Using research from my Master’s thesis, I discuss the evolution of battlefield preservation and interpretation, looking at past trends and how preservation has changed.

**Civil War Railroads**
I analyze how both sides made use of their resources, how railroads affected military strategy and operations, and summarize the impact of railroads on the war.

**Embattled Capitol: A Guide to Civil War Richmond**
This talk is tied to the guidebook and includes historic sites, museums, parks, monuments, battlefields, and more. It also provides a history of Richmond during the war.

**No Turning Back: The Overland Campaign and the Battle of Cold Harbor**
This talk addresses common myths and misconceptions about Cold Harbor.

**Reconstruction**
An Overview of the challenges the reunited nation faced

**Stones River: Force of a Cyclone**
This often-overlooked battle came at a crucial point in the war, and I enjoy discussing its context and consequences.

**To the Bitter End**
Most of us know the details of Appomattox and even the Bennett Place in North Carolina, but what about the other surrenders? We will delve into the lesser-known surrenders in Alabama, Arkansas, and Texas, and discuss how the war ended and how that set up the early stages of Reconstruction.

**The Browns Island Explosion**
The largest industrial accident in the Confederacy saw over 40 women and girls, and a handful of men and boys, killed. This presentation
dissects the event and its aftermath, and includes a search for the victims’ graves.

**The Confederate Surrender at Greensboro**  
The largest troop surrender of the war, a story with many fascinating twists and turns.

**The Fall of Richmond**  
Which unit got into Richmond first? Who flew the first National flag over the Confederate Capitol? Who received the city’s surrender? These and other questions have been issues of contention ever since that day. This talk explores the issues related to the city’s evacuation and capture.

**The Richmond Bread Riot**  
This was the largest wartime protest in the Confederacy, in which thousands of women rioted and looted stores in downtown Richmond. What were the causes and what were the long-term results?

**Other Potential Topics:**  

Archaeology at Jamestown, War of 1812 battles of River Raisin, Overview of the War of 1812, the Attack on Washington

(Presentations can be customized to meet a group’s interests.)
Jon-Erik Gilot has worked in the field of public history for more than 15 years and is active in numerous historical organizations. A regular contributor at Emerging Civil War since 2018, his work has also been published in books, journals, and magazines. His first Emerging Civil War Series title, *John Brown’s Raid*, is scheduled for a Fall 2022 release.

Jon-Erik earned a degree in History from Bethany College and Master of Library & Information Science from Kent State University. Today, he serves as Curator at the Captain Thomas Espy Grand Army of the Republic Post in Carnegie, Pennsylvania, and works as an archivist and records manager in Wheeling, West Virginia.

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** Jon-Erik has several presentations relating to West Virginia in the Civil War, including the First Campaign, Jenkins’s 1862 Trans-
Allegheny Raid, and the Jones-Imboden Raid. Feel free to contact him with any specific requests. **

“Any Army Marching Tonight Must be Made up a Damned Set of Fools”: The Battle of Philippi
This talk examines the June 3, 1861, Battle of Philippi, (West) Virginia, the first significant land “battle” of the Civil War and the opening stages of George B. McClellan’s Western Virginia campaign.

“Hardships & Dangers Will Bind Men as Brothers”: The Ohio National Guard in 1864”
This presentation focuses on the Ohio National Guard battalions that were called up for one hundred days service in the summer of 1864. These regiments were to be used for duty behind the lines – guarding bridges, railroads, blockhouses, forts and prisons, thereby freeing up veteran regiments for front-line duty. Instead, many of these raw troops were themselves thrown into battle in both the eastern and western theaters. The talk follows two National Guard regiments raised in neighboring counties and compares their vastly different experiences during their terms of service, and how history has remembered (or forgotten) the wartime contributions of the Ohio National Guard.

The Meteor of the War: John Brown’s Raid
John Brown’s 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry is widely acknowledged as a cataclysmic event that catapulted the country towards civil war. This talk offers an overview of the planning, the events of the raid, and the resulting fallout.

“All My Bright Hopes of the Future are Blasted”: Dangerfield Newby’s Fight for Freedom
Next to John Brown himself, perhaps the most recognizable and evocative image of John Brown's Raid is the haunting portrait of raider Dangerfield Newby. This talk follows Newby from his childhood in Virginia and his life in Ohio, his death at Harpers Ferry, his legacy in popular culture, and how the Newby family continued Dangerfield's fight for freedom after his death.
Phillip S. Greenwalt has a graduate degree in American History from George Mason University and a bachelor’s in history from Wheeling Jesuit University. He is currently the Chief of Interpretation and Education at Catoctin Mountain Park in Maryland. He has held prior positions within the National Park Service as a supervisory park ranger for Everglades National Park and a park ranger-historian at George Washington Birthplace National Monument and Thomas Stone National Historic Site. During his career he has also served in official National Park Service details at Morristown National Historical Park, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Cedar Creek & Belle Grove National Historical Park, and Fort McHenry National Memorial and Historic Shrine. Phill is a native of Baltimore, Maryland.

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A Confederate Southwest Empire: The New Mexico Campaign of 1862
In early 1862, a Confederate force entered the territory of New Mexico with a goal of creating a Confederacy that stretched from “sea to shining sea.” Instead, this force met defeat at the Battle of Glorieta Pass in March 1862. This talk examines what happened in the American southwest and how the ripples of this campaign reverberated farther afield.

Floridians at Gettysburg; in Battle & Memory
An overview of this overlooked brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign and their march into memory of this pivotal engagement.

From Kirby’s Kingdom:
Ramifications from the Trans-Mississippi in 1864
A look at the pivotal Red River Campaign and how it affected both the Trans-Mississippi and events in the autumn of 1864 east of the Mississippi River.

From “Old Bald Head” to “Lee’s Bad Old Man”
A Study of the Second Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia in 1864 and its ensuing experiences.

“If this Valley is Lost . . .”
Examining and comparing the 1862 and 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaigns

A Nation Torn and A State Divided:
Maryland in the First Two Years of the War
A discussion of Maryland, including the role and view of Baltimore, on the eve of the American Civil War and leading up to the pivotal battle of Antietam in September 1862.

Where the War was Lost: The Disastrous 1862-1863 Leadership of the Army of Tennessee
Examines how the Confederate army’s leadership mismanaged and ultimately lost the Confederate heartland and subsequently the war.
Steward T. Henderson is a contributing historian with Emerging Civil War. He is also the co-founder and past president of the 23rd Regiment United States Colored Troops. He has been an interpretive park ranger at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, from 2007 until present. He has also worked at the park since February 2005 to present as a volunteer and an Eastern National sales associate. He continues to give tours on the four battlefields as a battlefield guide with Battlefield Tours of Virginia (formerly Fredericksburg Tours). He is also a living historian and reenactor with the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Co. B. Other memberships include the African American Civil War Museum, the Freedom Foundation, the John J. Wright Museum, a 20-year member of the American Battlefield Trust, Central Virginia Battlefield Trust, and Rappahannock Valley Civil War Roundtable. Steward attended Howard University, the Institute of Financial Education, the American Institute of Banking, and the Consumer Bankers Association Graduate School of Retail Bank Management. He retired as a Senior Vice President of Retail Banking, SunTrust Bank (now Truist Bank) Greater Washington Region, in January 2005, after a 35-year career in the financial services industry.
The 4th Division of the IX Corps in the Overland Campaign
In January 1864, General Ambrose E. Burnside was asked to reorganize the IX Corps. He asked for and was granted permission, by Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, to form a division of “colored troops.” The 4th Division of the IX Corps would consist of black troops fighting for the Union and commanded by General Edward Ferrero.

The USCT at New Market Heights
The Battle of New Market Heights was fought on September 29, 1864, with troops of the Army of the James attacking fortifications defending the Confederate capital of Richmond. General Charles Paine’s 3rd Division of the XVIII Corps consisted of three brigades of black troops, and General William Birney had a colored brigade of the X Corps. The black troops faced a galling fire but succeeded in capturing New Market Heights. Fourteen black soldiers and two of their white officers earned the Medal of Honor for their actions in the battle.

The 23rd United States Colored Troops
I represent a soldier in the 23rd Regiment Infantry United States Colored Troops. This regiment was the first black regiment to fight in “directed combat” against Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia. On May 15th, 1864, during the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, the 23rd came to the aid of the 2nd Ohio Cavalry and drove away General Thomas Rosser’s Confederate Cavalry Brigade in a minor skirmish.

The United States Colored Troops: Fighting for Freedom
At the beginning of the Civil War, black men tried to enlist in both the Union and Confederate armies. Most were not allowed in either army, although there were very light-skinned blacks who were able to pass as white and join those armies. By the end of the war, some 180,000 to 200,000 blacks served in the United States Army and another 20,000 plus served in the United States Navy. According to the African American Civil War Memorial and Museum in Washington, DC, the African American Civil War Memorial lists...
209,145 men in the US Colored Troops: 201,000 blacks, 7,000 white officers, and 1,145 Hispanics.

The Importance of the Fredericksburg Area in the Civil War
This area is the bloodiest landscape in North America: more than 105,000 men were killed and wounded in the four major battles and the skirmishes that surrounded them. This area was also the focal point of the Civil War for more 2 years, as this area is halfway between the two capitals: Washington, DC, the capitol of the United States of America and Richmond VA, the capital of the Confederate States of America. The Union army determined that the quickest way to Richmond was on a straight line through Fredericksburg.

War Comes to the Church:
Fredericksburg’s St. George’s Episcopal Church in the Civil War
December 11, 1862, would directly bring St. George Church’s into the hostilities of the Civil War. On that day, the church became a fortress against an advancing Union line coming from Stafford. Located prominently on a hill overlooking key streets to the north, the Church provided a wonderful location for soldiers to view approaching advances and as a base to deploy forces against the Union. St. George’s played a role as Confederate stronghold late in the day. General William Barksdale’s Mississippi Brigade used the church and the city to delay Federal bridge builders and fought the Union soldiers in the streets of the city. St. George’s was the tallest building in the city and was in an advantageous location for Barksdale’s 1500 men.
Dwight Hughes is a public historian, author, and speaker in Civil War naval history. Dwight graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1967 with a major in history and government. He served twenty years as a Navy surface warfare officer including with river forces in Vietnam. Dwight taught Naval ROTC at the University of Rochester, earned an MA in Political Science, and later completed an MS in Information Systems Management from USC.

Dwight’s current calling melds a love of the sea and ships with a lifetime study of naval history and the Civil War. Dwight is a contributing author at the Emerging Civil War blog. He authored *A Confederate Biography: The Cruise of the CSS Shenandoah* (Naval Institute Press, 2015) and *Unlike Anything that Ever Floated: The Monitor and Virginia and the Battle of Hampton Roads, March 8-9, 1862* (Savas Beatie, March 2021).

Dwight has presented at numerous Civil War Roundtables, historical conferences, and other venues. See his website: http://civilwarnavyhistory.com/.
Coming Fall 2022 from Savas Beatie: *The Civil War on the Water: Favorite Stories and Fresh Perspectives from the Historians at Emerging Civil War*, Dwight Hughes co-editor and contributing author.

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**The Sailor and The Soldier at Vicksburg:**
**Unprecedented Joint Operations**
Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter, commander of the Union Mississippi River Squadron, formed an underappreciated partnership with General Ulysses S. Grant to conquer the Confederate bastion at Vicksburg, Mississippi. The U.S. Navy had never undertaken extensive operations on inland waterways in cooperation with land forces. Despite contrasting personalities, the sailor and the soldier hit it off. Grant and Porter “were a formidable combination, hyperaggressive and strategically astute,” noted one historian. From December 1862 to July 1863, their joint forces conducted unprecedented amphibious river assaults and expeditions through sluggish swamps, flooded forests, and tiny, choked channels. Porter’s squadron braved massive shore batteries, providing transport and heavy artillery support until Vicksburg fell. This was a powerful team melding maritime mobility and firepower with hard fighting on land. Published in *The Summer of ’63: Vicksburg and Tullahoma: Favorite Stories and Fresh Perspectives from the Historians at Emerging Civil War* (Savas Beatie, 2021).

**Unlike Anything That Ever Floated: The USS Monitor**
The USS Monitor was an ingenious but hurried response to both the imminent threat of the Confederate ironclad, CSS *Virginia* (ex USS *Merrimack*), and to the growing prospect of international intervention backed by powerful British or French seagoing ironclads. The United States had no defenses against either menace. This presentation takes *Monitor* from her inception in the mind of her brilliant inventor through the dramatic first clash of ironclads at Hampton Roads. Based on my book for the award-winning Emerging Civil War series, *Unlike Anything that Ever Floated: The*
Monitor and Virginia and the Battle of Hampton Roads, March 8-9, 1862 (Savas Beatie, March 2021).

Unvexed Waters: The Civil War on Heartland Rivers
History offers few examples other than the American Civil War and the conflict in Vietnam of extensive military operations on inland waterways requiring specialized classes of war vessels commanded and manned by naval personnel. The contest for the Mississippi River and its tributaries—the spine of America—was one of the longest and most challenging campaigns of the Civil War encompassing a 700-mile wet corridor from Mound City, Illinois, to the Gulf of Mexico. Control of the rivers was a key strategic factor, but in tactics and technology, riverine warfare was a fundamentally new concept empowered by industrial revolutions in steam propulsion, armor, and armaments. Both navies, Union and Confederate, started with no shallow-water warships, no tactics, no command structure, and no infrastructure. This presentation reviews the unprecedented conflict along the watery spine of America. (Presented at the North American Society for Oceanic History Annual Conference, May 2018.)

Rebel Odyssey: The Cruise of the CSS Shenandoah
The Confederate commerce raider CSS Shenandoah carried the Civil War to the ends of the earth through every extreme of sea and storm pursuing a perilous mission in which they succeeded spectacularly after it no longer mattered. This thirteen-month, global cruise (October 1864-November 1865) was watery asymmetric warfare in the spirit of Mosby, Forrest, and Sherman. Rebel Americans disrupted Melbourne, Australia, enjoyed a Pacific island holiday as guns fell silent at Appomattox, and six weeks later invaded the north, the deep cold of the Bering Sea. Shenandoah fired the last gun of the conflict and set Arctic waters aglow with flaming Yankee whalers. Months later, she limped into Liverpool where Captain Waddell lowered the last Confederate banner without defeat or surrender. Based on my book A Confederate Biography: The Cruise of the CSS Shenandoah (Naval Institute Press, 2015).
Burnside’s Sand March: The Forgotten North Carolina Expedition
Poor General Ambrose Burnside. He gets no respect. Bumbling his way across Burnside Bridge at Antietam, through the disastrous battle of Fredericksburg and the Mud March. But before all that, Burnside’s innovative planning and effective leadership brought significant victory in a series of engagements from February to June 1862 in the strategically vital sounds and along the barrier islands of North Carolina, supported by the U.S. Navy. It was the first and one of the few operations effectively integrating the strengths of army and navy. With aggressive follow up, it might have shortened the conflict. This was the “Burnside Expedition.” *(Presented at the Emerging Civil War Annual Symposium, Spotsylvania, VA, Aug 2, 2019.)*

From Shenandoah to Seeadler: The Legacy of Civil War Commerce Raiders in WWI
Rebel raiders *Alabama, Florida, Shenandoah*, and their sisters wreaked havoc on powerful Union shipping and whaling industries. Confederates applied new industrial technologies to advance ancient concepts of commerce warfare and to develop innovative cruiser warships while the U.S. Navy struggled to combat them. These controversial weapons disrupted economies, exacerbated international tensions, diverted critical resources, and threatened the Union war effort. Early in World War I, German naval planners consciously applied Confederate precedents but with less success. This presentation explores the legacy of Civil War commerce raiders leading up to submarine warfare and beyond. *(Presented at the U. S. Naval Academy McMullen Naval History Symposium, September 2015.)*

Rebels Down Under: A Surprise Confederate Visitor Makes Mayhem in Melbourne
January 1865: Confederate commerce raider *CSS Shenandoah* invades the bustling port of Melbourne—the most remote and most British imperial outpost. The Melbourne citizenry (including a sizeable American expatriate community) split into contentious political camps over crucial issues of international law, trade, neutrality, and independence. Reflecting deep worries concerning the distant war,
Australians mirrored the prejudices and misperceptions of their British cousins. Shenandoah officers were feted as heroes by one faction but were denounced as pirates and nearly lost their ship to the other. This is the outsiders’ view of the conflict, illustrating international issues that were potentially decisive. (Presented at U. S. Naval Academy McMullen Naval History Symposium, September 2011.)

**Rebels and Aliens: Confederates on the Far Side of the World**

Towering verdant peaks sprouted from aquamarine seas as the commerce raider CSS Shenandoah approached the Island of Pohnpei on April fool’s day, 1865. This microcosm of the Confederacy carried the conflict to the remotest Pacific where they encountered a courageous, resourceful warrior culture that seemed totally alien. But was it? Neither party saw into the heart of the other’s society, but looking back, we find similarities as striking as differences. While lonely Rebels slept under tropic stars, guns fell silent at Appomattox. This presentation reviews commonalities and contradictions of diverse peoples separated by vast reaches of ocean but inextricably linked by human nature, maritime technology, trade, and war. (Presented at U. S. Naval Academy McMullen Naval History Symposium, Annapolis, MD, September 2013.)
Brian Matthew Jordan is Associate Professor of Civil War History and Chair of the History Department at Sam Houston State University, where he has taught since 2015. He is the author or editor of five books on the Civil War era, including Marching Home: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War, which was a finalist (one of three runners-up) for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in History, and A Thousand May Fall: An Immigrant Regiment’s Civil War, which was a selection of the Military History Book Club. Brian earned his Ph.D. at Yale University, where his dissertation won the George Washington Egleston Prize (for Best U.S. History Dissertation at Yale) and the John Addison Porter Prize. His more than 100 reviews, articles, and essays have appeared in the pages of Civil War History, The Journal of the Civil War Era, and The Journal of Military History. Since 2014, Brian has served as the Book Review Editor for The Civil War Monitor. He also co-edits the Veterans series with the University of Massachusetts Press. He has addressed audiences in more than twenty-five states. A native of Ohio, he is currently at work on a major interpretive synthesis of the Civil War era for Liveright/W.W. Norton.
Marching Home: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War. Billy Yank returned home to a society that wanted to move quickly beyond the painful issues of the Civil War. How, then, did Union soldiers navigate the transition from wartime to peacetime? What challenges lay ahead during the years of Reconstruction? How did postwar politics and the contest over Civil War memory shape the experiences of Union veterans? This talk examines the men who won the war but couldn’t bear the peace that followed.

Rethinking the Regimental History
A wave of recent scholars has sought to reinvent the “oldest genre” of Civil War writing: the regimental history. What can the story of a regiment tell us about the Civil War that sweeping national studies cannot? How do the experiences of a unique community of men invite us to rethink what we know about the Civil War? Drawing on the speaker’s work on the 107th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, this talk offers a unique and nuanced take on the common soldier during the Civil War.

An Immigrant Regiment’s Civil War
Nearly 200,000 ethnic Germans fought in Union blue between 1861 and 1865. The 107th Ohio Volunteer Infantry was one of six ethnically German regiments mustered from the Buckeye State. These men found the thick of the killing at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg before being moored on the war’s margins in South Carolina and Florida. The odyssey of the 107th Ohio brings important issues into focus: cowardice, loyalty, suffering, sacrifice, memory, and misfortune.
Christopher L. Kolakowski is Director of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison, WI. He received his BA in History and Mass Communications from Emory & Henry College, and his MA in Public History from the State University of New York at Albany.

Chris has spent his career interpreting and preserving American military history with the National Park Service, New York State government, the Rensselaer County (NY) Historical Society, the Civil War Preservation Trust, Kentucky State Parks, the U.S. Army, and the MacArthur Memorial. He has written and spoken on various aspects of military history from 1775 to the present. He has published two books with the History Press: The Civil War at Perryville: Battling For the Bluegrass and The Stones River and Tullahoma Campaign: This Army Does Not Retreat. In September 2016 the U.S. Army published his volume on the 1862 Virginia Campaigns as part of its sesquicentennial series on the Civil War. He is a contributor to the Emerging Civil War Blog, and a reviewer and contributor to the Air Force Journal of Indo-Pacific Studies. His study of the 1941-42
Philippine Campaign titled *Last Stand on Bataan* was released in late February 2016. His most recent book focuses on the 1944 India-Burma battles, *Nations in the Balance*, released in March 2022.

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**Perryville: Battle for Kentucky**
Overview of the 1862 Kentucky Campaign and Battle of Perryville, with discussion of the political and military impacts on the war.

**The Campaign and Battle of Stones River**
Overview of the Stones River campaign 1862-63, with discussion of its importance in the war.

**The Tullahoma Campaign**
Overview of Middle Tennessee operations spring and summer 1863. Also includes a discussion of the turmoil in the Army of Tennessee’s high command.

**The Fall of 1862: Union in Crisis**
Strategic, political, and social overview of the period September 1 to December 31, 1862. Argues this is one of the great turning points of the war.

**Stars and Stripes on Marye’s Heights: The Second Battle of Fredericksburg**
Overview of operations near Fredericksburg in April and early May 1863, including the taking of Marye’s Heights.

**1864: Decision at Sea**
Examines the naval war of 1864 and the various decisive clashes between the US Navy and the CS Navy during that year.

**1865: End and Beginning**
Examines the Civil War’s end and how it both began the peace and developed legacies that extend into the 20th Century.
Max Longley is a writer in Durham, NC (you’ll know it as Durham’s Station, near Bennett Place). In addition to his numerous articles, Max has contributed a couple of interesting books to the history of the era: *For the Union and the Catholic Church: Four Converts in the Civil War* and *Quaker Carpetbagger: J. Williams Thorne, from Underground Railroad Host to North Carolina Politician*. Max’s interests include wartime religion, civilian personalities, Copperheads, politics, the strange and unusual, and of course combinations of these. We can negotiate whether I’ll appear in person or virtually.

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“He likes to argue”: Catholic editor Orestes Brownson versus Archbishop John Hughes on slavery

Northern Catholics were divided over the war. One notable clash was between two Catholic supporters of the war—Archbishop John Hughes of New York, and convert-editor Orestes Brownson. Brownson, through his *Review*, advocated using the war as a chance to abolish slavery. Hughes thought abolitionism was madness. Then as Lincoln’s emissary to Catholic powers, Hughes had to explain away his stance to otherwise-sympathetic Europeans. Brownson split with most Northern Catholics, leaving the Democrats in favor of the Republicans and cheering emancipation. *(50 minutes, may have Powerpoint)*
The Reaper Man: Cyrus McCormick and the Civil War
Cyrus McCormick made his fortune with his mechanical reaper, which greatly improved Midwestern agriculture, much to the advantage of the wartime North. In his religio-political activities, McCormick spent the war, and the immediate antebellum years, trying to tamp down antislavery sentiment in the country and in the influential Presbyterian denomination of which he was a member. He did not succeed. (50 minutes, may have Powerpoint)

Conscientious objectors in the Civil War
Sen. John Conness of California called the Civil War “a Quaker’s war” and opposed any religious exemption for the Union's draft law. The U. S. Congress was more lenient and allowed young conscripts from traditional peace churches, such as the Quakers, to perform alternate service. The Confederate Congress allowed members of peace churches to pay a fee in exchange for exemption. In both sections, draftees who didn't fit into the categories of the exemption law faced harsh treatment, mitigated in many cases by sympathizers in the respective governments. In the North this meant Abraham Lincoln, who could be willing to stretch a point to accommodate sincere conscientious objectors. In the South it meant John A. Campbell, a sympathetic War Department official and former Supreme Court justice. (50 minutes, may have Powerpoint)

Civil War Stoic philosophy?
Stoicism—the philosophical school that teaches people to focus on what's within their control and to accept what isn't, is undergoing something of a revival nowadays. Stoicism also appealed to some soldiers and veterans in the Civil War and afterwards. Thomas Wentworth Higginson, abolitionist, Civil War officer, and all-around reformer, prepared a translation of the Stoic philosopher Epictetus. Lucius Verus Bierce, abolitionist and Ohio officer monitoring the home front, published an updated translation of some works of the Stoic philosopher Seneca. And Lucius’ nephew Ambrose Bierce, a combat veteran who wrote about the raw side of war while experiencing his own tragedies, wrote to correspondents that he had some consolation from Epictetus the Stoic. (This talk combining two hot topics—the Civil War and Stoicism—would take 50 minutes, and may have Powerpoint.)

The great newspaper censorship of 1861
In August 1861, losing patience with what it saw as defeatist or Pro-
Confederate newspapers, the Lincoln administration struck at several of these periodicals. Federal tactics included seizing newspaper equipment, forbidding papers the use of the mail, and even arresting editors. Some of the affected papers endured closure for several months, and some changed their editorial policy or staff under federal supervision. Ultimately, newspaper dissent continued, and so did censorship. (50 minutes, may have Powerpoint)

The M(a)cMaster brothers: On opposite sides in the Civil War and in the American religious divide
The Civil War has been called a brothers’ war. Let us look at two brothers of different faiths, different views of the war and slavery, and even different spellings of their last name. Erasmus MacMaster was a Presbyterian minister and professor who was driven out of employment shortly before the war for his caustic criticism of his denomination's softness on slavery. He spent the war farming and living with his family, while preaching fiery sermons denouncing slavery and saying the country needed to return to God. James McMaster, Erasmus’ younger brother, was a Catholic convert—much to his family’s horror—and edited the New York Freeman's Journal and Catholic Register. In this weekly paper, James opposed the war and ended up not only as a full-blown Copperhead but as an associate of Confederate secret agents. There were limited contacts between the Catholic and non-Catholic sides of the M(a)cMaster family. (50 minutes, may have Powerpoint)

North Carolina’s pro-Northern “governors” on Cape Hatteras and the coast
As Union forces occupied coastal North Carolina, two men emerged who proclaimed themselves to be the true, loyal governors of the state. One of these governors was self-proclaimed, the second was appointed by Lincoln. Marble Nash Taylor was a Methodist minister assigned to Hatteras Island. When federal forces captured Hatteras, Taylor, after raising funds for the islanders in New York, fell in with a schemer who persuaded Taylor to have a meeting of a handful of Hatteras’ Union loyalists, who proclaimed Taylor governor. As federal troops took over more of North Carolina’s east coast, Lincoln appointed a “real” Union governor: Edward Stanly, who had been an influential antebellum North Carolina politician. Stanly made Northern opponents of slavery indignant when he said that state laws against educating slaves were still in force, casting doubt on religious educational work among the slaves in the conquered areas. Stanly resigned after the Emancipation Proclamation, which he opposed. (50 minutes, may have Powerpoint)
Chris Mackowski, Ph.D., is the editor-in-chief and co-founder of Emerging Civil War and the series editor of the award-winning Emerging Civil War Series, published by Savas Beatie. Chris is a writing professor in the Jandoli School of Communication at St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, NY, where he also serves as associate dean for undergraduate programs. Chris is also historian-in-residence at Stevenson Ridge, a historic property on the Spotsylvania battlefield in central Virginia.

Chris has worked as a historian for the National Park Service at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park, where he gives tours at four major Civil War battlefields (Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania), as well as at the building where Stonewall Jackson died. He frequently partners on projects with the American Battlefield Trust, the nation’s largest battlefield preservation organization.
Chris has authored or co-authored nearly two dozen books and edited a half-dozen essay collections on the Civil War, and his articles have appeared in all the major Civil War magazines. Chris serves as vice president on the board of directors for the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, he serves on the advisory board of the Civil War Roundtable Congress and the Brunswick (NC) Civil War Roundtable—the largest in the country—and is a supporter of the Antietam Institute.

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Please Note: Chris’s many roles entail a great number of responsibilities, so he has only a very limited availability for speaking engagements.

Grant’s Last Battle: The Story Behind The Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant
Facing financial ruin and struggling against terminal throat cancer, Ulysses S. Grant fought his last battle to preserve the meaning of the American Civil War. His war of words, The Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant, would cement his place as not only one of America's greatest heroes but also as one of its most sublime literary voices.

The Last Days of Stonewall Jackson
Jackson’s loss has been called one of the major turning points of the war. Follow his last days, from his flank attack at Chancellorsville and his accidental wounding by his own men, to the amputation of his arm and his final journey over the river to rest under the shade of the trees.

That Furious Struggle: Chancellorsville and the High Tide of the Confederacy
For three days in May 1863, the tiny wilderness intersection of Chancellorsville became the most important crossroads in America. A campaign that began with Joe Hooker’s “perfect” plans ended up being remembered as “Lee’s Greatest Victory.”
A Season of Slaughter: The Battle at Spotsylvania’s Bloody Angle
For twenty-two straight hours, in torrential downpours, up to their knees in mud and blood, Federals and Confederates slugged it out in the most intense sustained hand-to-hand combat of the war. A panoply of horror, one soldier called it. A Saturnalia of blood. Hell’s Half-Acre. The slaughter pen of Spotsylvania. Most remember it simply as the Bloody Angle.

Second-Guessing Richard Ewell: The First Day at Gettysburg
It might be the most second-guessed decision of the war: On July 1, 1863, Confederate Lt. Gen. Richard Ewell decided it was not “practicable” to storm the Union position at Gettysburg after a hard day of fighting. As a result, history has scapegoated Ewell for the Confederate loss there, and critics have loudly wondered, “If Stonewall Jackson had been there.” But Ewell made a militarily sound decision—as a look at the facts will show.

Strike Them a Blow: Battle Along the North Anna River
The most overlooked segment of the Overland Campaign also represented some of the best chances both generals had for destroying each other’s armies—but the war of attrition had taken a personal toll on the commanders, peppering the North Anna River with lost opportunities.

The Great Battle Never Fought: Mine Run
Facing immense political pressure to engage the Army of Northern Virginia in battle, George Gordon Meade spent the fall of 1863 instead engaged in cat-and-mouse generalship with Robert E. Lee. The season came to a head along the banks of a small stream called Mine Run, where Meade chose to sacrifice himself instead of his men.

Hell Itself: The Battle of the Wilderness
The Wilderness holds a place all its own in Civil War lore: as Lee and Grant clashed for the first time, the “dark, close wood” seemed impenetrable and mysterious. As the armies slaughtered each other, the forest around them burned.
Grant’s Next Chapter:
Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and the Rise of U.S. Grant
U.S. Grant finished one volume of his memoirs with the aftermath of Vicksburg and opened the second with the battle of Chattanooga. Not only did that point serve as a convenient break for Grant in his narrative, it marked the turning point of his career. Vicksburg closed out one chapter, while Chattanooga began other.

“I Am Too Late”: The Battle of Jackson, Mississippi,
During the Vicksburg Campaign
Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston arrived in Mississippi’s capital just in time to abandon it as Federal commander Ulysses S. Grant made an unexpected turn toward the city. “I am too late,” Johnston declared. Originally unplanned, the battle of Jackson proved to be a vital part of Grant’s overland campaign to capture Vicksburg.

Fearless of All Danger: Brig. Gen. Thomas Greely Stevenson
As a short-tenured division commander in the most underperforming Federal corps in the East, commanded by one of the most lampooned Union generals, along the least-known front of the battle of Spotsylvania Court House, it’s little wonder that Thomas Greely Stevenson is barely remembered today or that his death gets little mention. He deserves a closer look.
Derek Maxfield is an associate professor of history at Genesee Community College in Batavia, New York. Author of *Hellmira: The Union’s Most Infamous Civil War Prison Camp–Elmira, NY*, and *Man of Fire: William Tecumseh Sherman in the Civil War*, Maxfield has written for Emerging Civil War since 2015. In 2019 he was honored with the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and in 2013 he was awarded the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities.

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**SHERMAN: Man or Monster**

By turns, William T. Sherman he has been called a savior and a barbarian, a hero and a villain, a genius and a madman. But whatever you call him, you must admit he is utterly fascinating.

Sherman spent a lifetime in search of who he was, striving to find a place and a calling. Hounded by his family to leave the military,
Sherman tried banking and practicing law. Finally, he became superintendent of a new military academy in Louisiana and thought he had found his place—until civil war intervened.

But after leading his troops at the battle of Bull Run, the anxious brigadier general was sent West to Kentucky. Apprehensive over the situation in the Blue Grass State, suffering from stress, insomnia and anxiety Sherman begged to be relieved. Sent home to recover, the newspapers announced he was insane. Colleagues concluded he was “gone in the head.”

Instead, like a phoenix, he rose from the ashes to become a hero of the republic. Forging an identity in the fire of war, the unconventional general kindled a friendship with Ulysses S. Grant and proved to everyone at Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, Georgia, and in the Carolinas that while he was unorthodox, he was also brilliant and creative. More than that, he was eminently successful and played an important role in Union victory.

This talk is based on Maxfield’s forthcoming book Man of Fire: William Tecumseh Sherman in the Civil War (Savas Beatie, 2022) and tells the story of a man who found himself in war—and that, in turn, secured him a place in history. Condemned for his barbarousness or hailed for his heroics, the life of this peculiar general is nonetheless compelling—and thoroughly American.

Marching through the Heart of the Confederacy: Sherman’s Atlanta Campaign and the March to the Sea

Undertaken in the summer of 1864, Sherman’s drive on Atlanta and subsequent march to Savannah tore the heart out of the Confederacy. Atlanta was a major manufacturing center and railroad hub that was utterly destroyed by Sherman’s army. The march across Georgia was designed as psychological warfare as much as military. By the time Sherman reached Atlanta, the Confederate will to fight was swiftly diminishing.
A Deadly Puzzle: Grant’s Vicksburg Campaign
Ulysses S. Grant knew what he wanted; he just was not sure how to get it. He was thwarted approaching Vicksburg overland from Tennessee; he could not bypass or get around it. No matter how he tried to get at the Gibraltar of the West the weather, the Mississippi River, the topography of the land, or the rebels themselves worked against him. It was a grand and deadly puzzle that Grant would ultimately solve through perseverance and tenacity.

We’ll Lick ‘em Tomorrow: Grant, Sherman, and the Battle of Shiloh
One of the interesting storylines of the war was the friendship of Union Generals Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman—men who were nearly opposites. Reserved and pragmatic, Grant was a simple, practical guy. Sherman was high strung, exuberant, and intellectual. Their friendship was sealed in the fiery contest on the Tennessee River near a place called Pittsburgh Landing.

Hellmira: The Union’s Most Infamous Civil War Prison Camp—Elmira, NY
Long called by some the “Andersonville of the North,” the prisoner of war camp in Elmira, New York, is remembered as the most notorious of all Union-run POW camps. It existed for only a year—from the summer of 1864 to July 1865—but in that time, and for long after, it became darkly emblematic of man’s inhumanity to man. Confederate prisoners called it “Hellmira.” Based on his book by this title, Maxfield contextualizes the rise of prison camps during the Civil War, explores the failed exchange of prisoners, and tells the tale of the creation and evolution of the prison camp in Elmira. In the end, Maxfield suggests that it is time to move on from the blame game and see prisoner of war camps—North and South—as a great humanitarian failure.

Lincoln: Constitutional Pragmatist
This talk explores our nation’s relationship with Abraham Lincoln and his association with the Constitution. A deeper understanding of Lincoln may surprise some people, and even tarnish his popular
image for others. To some extent this is because we tend to think of Lincoln more as a statesman and hero, rather than a politician. The truth, however, is that Lincoln was a very talented politician and could be just as smooth yet slippery as the best and most manipulative of civic leaders. Lincoln’s relationship with the Constitution was shaped by both Lincoln the statesman and Lincoln the politician—depending upon circumstances.

**Ancestors in Peace and in Pieces**
In this talk, I explore the stories of my six great-grandfathers who fought in the Civil War—all for the Union. Of the six, four survived and two perished. Although the survivors might be the “lucky ones,” as we’ll see they all came home broken men both in body and spirit.

Also available, the theatrical production:

“GRANT ON THE EVE OF VICTORY”
*A two-person show featuring Derek and Jess Maxfield*
Set in late March 1865, *Grant On the Eve of Victory* is a one-act play that features a conversation between Lt. General U.S. Grant and war correspondent George Alfred Townsend of the *New York World*. This late-night informal interview features Grant’s recollections about Maj. General William Tecumseh Sherman, the Battle of Shiloh, surrender of Vicksburg and his thoughts about Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Written and directed by Derek Maxfield, who also plays Grant, the play features Jess Maxfield who portrays Townsend.

This traveling show is available in one act and runs about one hour with Q&A.

“The actors made the audience members feel as if they had stepped back in time to witness a historic event.”

— Sue Erdle, Supervisor, Town of West Sparta, NY
Rob Orrison has been working in the history field for more than 20 years. He has led hundreds of tours and presentations. He co-authored *A Want of Vigilance: The Bristoe Station Campaign, October 1863; The Last Road North: A Guide to the Gettysburg Campaign; To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland Campaign of 1862; A Single Blow: The Battles of Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775;* and dozens of articles.

Born and raised in Loudoun County, Virginia, Rob received his bachelor’s degree in Historic Preservation at Longwood University and received his master’s degree in Public History from George Mason University. Currently Rob serves as the Division Manager of the Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation. He is cofounder of Emerging Revolutionary War and serves on the board of directors of Virginia Civil War Trails and is the former president of the Virginia Association of Museums. Rob lives in Prince William County with his wife, Jamie, and sons, Carter and Grayson.

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• First Manassas (battle and campaign), including associated skirmishes and battle in July 1861 in Virginia

• Second Manassas (battle and campaign), including all associated skirmishes and battles from Cedar Mountain to Chantilly

• Bristoe Station (battle and campaign), including all associated skirmishes, battles, and personalities from September 1863-November 1863

• Potomac Blockade, including all associated skirmishes, battles, and personalities that relate to the Confederate blockade of the Potomac River, July 1861-March 1862.

• John S. Mosby: his life, and his partisan actions

• Battles of Lexington and Concord (American Revolution), including military and political history of the Boston region in 1770-1775

• Battle of Camden (American Revolution), including associated actions in the Southern Campaign of 1780
Kevin Pawlak is a Certified Battlefield Guide at Antietam National Battlefield and works as a Historic Site Manager for the Prince William County Historic Preservation Division. Kevin also sits on the Board of Directors of the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association, the Save Historic Antietam Foundation, and the Antietam Institute. He graduated in 2014 from Shepherd University, where he studied Civil War history and historic preservation. He is the author or co-author of five books, including To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland Campaign, 1862.

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Antietam Endgame
Examines the last three days of the Maryland Campaign, September 18-20, 1862, and its repercussions for the campaign.

“We labor under many disadvantages”: The Confederate Medical Corps in the Maryland Campaign of September 1862
Discusses the actions of the Army of Northern Virginia’s medical
corps from late August to early October 1862 and its successes and failures during the battle of Antietam.

“The General Result Was In Our Favor”:
George B. McClellan in the Maryland Campaign
Challenges common notions about George McClellan’s performance in the Maryland Campaign and the outcome of that campaign.

Federal High Command at Antietam:
Their Biographies, Backgrounds, and Relationships
Examines the Union corps commanders at the Battle of Antietam—where they came from, where they fought, and how they interacted with one another.

“Raised from Obscurity”: The Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville on the Road to Gettysburg
Discusses the often-overlooked series of cavalry battles fought in the Loudoun Valley from June 17-21, 1863.

Water to his Front, Water to his Rear:
Robert E. Lee Defends the Confederate High Water Mark at Sharpsburg
Evaluates Robert E. Lee’s decision-making related to the Battle of Antietam: why did he fight there, when did he decide, and what did he hope to do at Antietam?

John Brown’s Raid
What did John Brown hope to accomplish by raiding the Harpers Ferry arsenal, and why did it fail? This talk will explore in detail the raid and its aftermath.

A Seared Soul: The Fall of Fitz John Porter
Fitz John Porter was a rising star in the United States Army at the beginning of the Civil War. By the end of the war, he was no longer a general in that army. This talk will examine Porter’s role in the Civil War and the court martial that expelled him from it.
David A. Powell is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute (1983) with a B.A. in history. He has published numerous articles in various magazines, and more than fifteen historical simulations of different battles. For the past decade, David’s focus has been on the epic battle of Chickamauga, and he is nationally recognized for his tours of that important battlefield. The result of that study was his first published book, *The Maps of Chickamauga* (Savas Beatie, 2009). His most recent project was a full-length, three-volume monograph of the battle of Chickamauga. Dave is also author of *Failure In The Saddle: Nathan Bedford Forrest, Joe Wheeler, and the Confederate Cavalry In the Chickamauga Campaign* (Savas Beatie, 2011).

David and his wife Anne live and work in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, Illinois. He is Vice President of Airsped, Inc., a specialized delivery firm.
The Battle of Chickamauga
An overview of the campaign and battle for Chickamauga, September 1863. This talk can be tailored as needed (by day, by unit, etc.)

Failure in the Saddle
An analysis of Confederate cavalry operations in the Chickamauga Campaign, focusing on the relationship between Bragg, Forrest, and Wheeler.

Command Decisions
Rosecrans vs. Bragg. How the differing leadership styles of these two men influenced the way their armies fought.

Tullahoma: The Forgotten Campaign
An exploration of the Army of the Cumberland’s military operations, June 26 to July 4, 1863.

A Reconnaissance Gone Awry: Captain Samuel R. Johnston’s fateful trip to Little Round Top
Examining the route, mission, and results of Captain Johnston’s dawn scouting mission for Robert E. Lee on July 2, 1863.

Stuart’s Ride
J.E.B. Stuart in the Gettysburg Campaign Examining Stuart’s ride through Maryland and Pennsylvania during the campaign.

Advance to Disaster: The Peach Orchard at Gettysburg
Daniel Sickles and the decision to occupy the Peach Orchard, July 2, 1863.

Civil War Tactics
How the Infantry, Artillery, and Cavalry fought—by the book and in the field. Includes missions and the evolution of doctrine.
Sigel in the Shenandoah
May, 1864 and the battle of New Market from the Union perspective.

Shiloh: The Right Flank
Sherman, McClernand, and the Jones Field counterattack, April 6, 1862.
Ryan Quint graduated from the University of Mary Washington and is a park ranger at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. He has previously worked for the George Washington Foundation, Colonial Williamsburg, and the Richmond National Battlefield Park. His first book, *Determined to Stand and Fight: The Battle of Monocacy*, was published as part of the Emerging Civil War Series.

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**The Battle of Monocacy: In Their Words**
This talk focuses on five soldiers who fought the battle of Monocacy on July 9, 1864. Rather than look at the commanders who led the opposing forces, this presentation examines the writings of three Union soldiers and two Confederates to see what the private soldiers on the field can tell us about the “The Battle that Saved Washington.”

**The Battle of Dranesville: December 20, 1861**
This talk examines the little-known battle of Dranesville that took place in the closing days of the war’s first year. A Federal victory at the end of an otherwise atrocious 1861, the battle of Dranesville buoyed
Union morale and embarrassed J.E.B. Stuart. The talk provides the backdrop of why the battle was fought, and examines some of the stories of those who found themselves locked in combat.

**Confederates in Maine: The Battle of Portland Harbor**
Tells the story of a daring raid that brought a Confederate commerce raider all the way up the east coast and into Maine’s largest city.
Angela Riotto received her Ph.D. from the University of Akron. Her research examines the ways in which both U.S. and Confederate former prisoners of war discussed their captivity between 1861 and 1930. She has published several articles and book chapters on her research. Her most recent piece, “As Happy a Man as Ever Wore ‘Confederate Grey’: Confederate Ex-Prisoners of War and Their Narratives of Imprisonment, 1877-1890” in Useful Captives: The Role of POWs in American Military Conflicts with University Press of Kansas was published in February 2021. She currently teaches with the Department of Military History at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College as an assistant professor.
Potential Talk Topics:

- The Prisoner and the Tramp: Dogs as Predators and Prey in American Civil War POWs’ Narratives
- War Trauma and the American Civil War
- “It is indelibly stamped into my being”: Union and Confederate Ex-prisoners of War and their Liminality in Postwar America
- Resetting the Rails: Confederate Ex-Prisoners’ Depictions of their African American Guards in the Post-Reconstruction South
- “As Bad As Any”: Confederate Ex-Prisoners of War and their Captivity Narratives, 1865-1890
- Lost to History: Survivors of the Sultana Disaster and their Memorialization Efforts
- Libby Prison War Museum: Site of Commemoration or Confederate Indictment
Jon Tracey is a public historian focused on soldier experience, memory, and veteran life in the Civil War era. He holds a BA in History from Gettysburg College and an MA from West Virginia University in Public History. He has worked at various historic sites, written several published articles, and is co-editor of Civil War Monuments and Memory. He currently works as a historian/cultural resource program manager and serves as Emerging Civil War’s Editorial Board chair.

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Camp Letterman General Hospital, the Aftermath of Gettysburg, and the Realities of Civil War Medicine
Camp Letterman was the largest Gettysburg hospital, opened weeks after the battle to the northeast of town. Thousands of soldiers, both Union and Confederate, passed through it as they recovered from horrible wounds. This topic may be approached in a variety of ways.
It can be a general overview of the hospital and operations, it can explore how specimens and treatment records advanced American medicine, and it can follow wounded veterans to show the tangible benefits of their care.

First on the Field: Cutler’s Brigade at Gettysburg
Learn about the Second Brigade, First Division, First Corps, Army of the Potomac under the command of Brigadier General Lysander Cutler at Gettysburg. Despite their desperate fight, their story has often been unfairly relegated to the sidelines or forgotten. This can also be retooled to focus on only the 76th NY, only the 147th NY, or instead focus on the spirited and angry debate between Cutler’s veterans and the Iron Brigade over who was first to fight at Gettysburg.

The Life and Death of Major Andrew Grover, 76th New York Infantry
Andrew Grover, a veteran of the Mexican American War and Christian minister, was perhaps the most beloved figure of the 76th New York Infantry. Wounded at Second Manassas, he resigned his commission to nurse his debilitating wounds. However, when his men requested he rejoin the regiment and accept a promotion, Grover answered the call again. Killed leading one of the first Union infantry regiments to arrive at Gettysburg, his men and his hometown community keenly felt his loss.

“A Travesty of Truth”:
The 72nd Pennsylvania Monument Controversy
As visitors travel the battlefield of Gettysburg, they see many monuments and markers. Often placed by regimental groups, each of these bronze statues or granite markers is trying to tell us a story. These stories, however, can be contested. The 72nd PA’s monument was perhaps one of the most controversial ones, leading to conflict between park managers and veterans as well as a dramatic court case.
“Awake, and to your county’s rescue fly:”
**The Nine-Month Men of the 130th Pennsylvania**
Though their term of service was only nine months, the soldiers of the 130th Pennsylvania Infantry fought at Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. Mustered in only a month before Antietam, they participated in the assaults against the Sunken Road and were assigned the grisly task of burying the dead there. Learn about this unit from a descendant of Company K’s Private Jacob Reever, see artifacts treasured by the veterans, and explore the service of a lesser known category of troops.

“A Fragment of Brave Men”: Andrew Gatewood’s Parole Pass
Though this piece of paper may look like an unimpressive yellow scrap today, it was priceless in 1865. This parole pass, issued to Confederate soldiers who surrendered in the spring of 1865 signified the end of their careers as soldiers. Long after the war they became treasured relics. Explore this important object through the life and lens of Andrew Gatewood, VMI student and officer of the 11th Virginia Cavalry.

**The World Wars in Gettysburg**
The Civil War was not the only time that Gettysburg felt the presence of American soldiers. From an Army Tank Corps training camp led by Dwight Eisenhower in 1918 to a psychological operations center as well as a German prisoner of war camp in WWII, the army had a lasting impact on the town and landscape.
Dan Welch is an educator with a public school district in northeast Ohio. Previously, he served as the education programs coordinator for the the non-profit Gettysburg Foundation, and he continues to serve as a seasonal park ranger at Gettysburg National Military Park. Dan is the associate editor of the long-running Gettysburg Magazine.

Welch received his BA in Instrumental Music Education from Youngstown State University, MA in Military History with a Civil War Era concentration at American Military University, and completed Gettysburg College’s rigorous Gettysburg Semester.

A lifelong student to the Civil War era, Dan has been a contributing member at Emerging Civil War for over seven years and is the co-author of two works in the Emerging Civil War Series: The Last Road North: A Guide to the Gettysburg Campaign, 1863 and Never Such A Campaign: The Battle of Second Manassas, August 28-30, 1862. Welch has also co-edited several volumes in the Emerging Civil War’s Tenth Anniversary Series, including: Grant Vs. Lee, The Summer of ‘63: Vicksburg & Tullahoma, and The Summer of ‘63: Gettysburg. Dan is
also the co-author of Ohio at Antietam: The Buckeye State’s Sacrifice on America’s Bloodiest Day with the History Press. He has published numerous essays, articles, and book reviews, as well.

Dan resides with his wife, Sarah, and three Labrador retrievers in Boardman, Ohio.

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“Acting as an Agent for Governor Curtin”: David Wills and His Mark on Gettysburg
Find out how one man, more than any other, ensured that the Federal dead after the battle of Gettysburg received “a final resting place for those who here gave their lives.”

“A Fitting Tribute”: Memorial Tributes to Abraham Lincoln
Explore how citizens, North and South, reacted to the Lincoln assassination through written words, speeches, associations, monuments, and music in the wake of his April 1865 death.

“Boys, give them rocks”: Jackson’s Defensive Stand at Second Manassas
One of the great defensive stands during the war was made by Stonewall Jackson and his men at the battle of Second Manassas. Although bent, swayed, punctured, and at times lacking ammunition, the line never gave way under countless assaults made by Federal forces. Examine how Jackson and his men were able to hold on against all odds in August 1862 on the plains of Manassas in this dramatic program.

How Did They Get Here? The Gettysburg Campaign
Follow the Union and Confederate armies northward across Virginia, Maryland, and into Pennsylvania during the weeks leading up to the battle of Gettysburg and examine the many battles and events that impacted both before the first shot on July 1, 1863.
John Mosby in the Gettysburg Campaign
John Mosby is famous for the work he and his battalion of cavalry accomplished during the war in Virginia. But, did you know he played a crucial role in the Gettysburg Campaign? Find out what Mosby and his men were doing in June and July 1863 in this program.

A MacArthur Relative at Gettysburg
Douglas MacArthur left an undeniable imprint on the history of the American military during World War II and our success over the axis powers. His leadership, military prowess, and service to his country came from a long line of veterans in his family, including several from the Civil War. See the role of one MacArthur relative during the climactic battle of Gettysburg.

Martyrs of the Race Course: The Forgotten Decoration Day
How were the dead of the Civil War, upwards of 750,000, memorialized in the first weeks and months following the war’s conclusion? Discover the earliest roots of Decoration Day, today Memorial Day, in this presentation.

Ohio At Antietam
Among the thousands who fought in the pivotal Battle of Antietam were scores of Ohioans. Sending eleven regiments and two batteries to the fight, the Buckeye State lost hundreds during the Maryland Campaign’s first engagement, South Mountain, and hundreds more “gave their last full measure of devotion” at the Cornfield, the Bloody Lane, and Burnside’s Bridge. Many of these brave men are buried at the Antietam National Cemetery. Aged veterans who survived the ferocious contest returned to Antietam in the early 1900s to fight for and preserve the memory of their sacrifices all those years earlier. Join Dan Welch as he explores Ohio’s role during those crucial hours on September 17, 1862.

“Rally ‘Round the Flag”: Color Bearers at Gettysburg
Discover the role color bearers played in nineteenth century armies
and the numerous heroic stories of those who carried these powerful symbols in combat at Gettysburg in July 1863.

**The Reluctant Rise and Unavoidable Fall of General John Pope**
John Pope is best known for his dramatic defeat by Robert E. Lee at the battle of Second Manassas. Did Pope even want that command in the first place? Did the rest of Pope’s career see the same results? How did Pope come east in 1862 anyway? Discover the answers to these questions and many more in this presentation.

**Secessionville: A Forgotten Battle of the Civil War**
In this enlightening talk, learn about the forgotten battle that took place on June 16, 1862 near Charleston, South Carolina. Discover how this forgotten battle shaped Union policy towards this front of the war following its conclusion.

**The Seven Days Campaign: The Rise of Robert E. Lee**
Follow the day-by-day actions between both armies during this campaign, and witness the rise of Confederate General Robert E. Lee. See how these battles, and Lee’s role in them, shaped the remainder of the 1862 campaign season and the rest of the war.

**“Where all so well did their duty...”**
**George Sears Greene’s Brigade at Gettysburg**
Against overwhelming odds, this lone Union brigade held Culp’s Hill in a climactic action on July 2, 1863. Learn about Greene, his men, and their gallant service on the slope of Culp’s Hill in this exciting program.

**Where Did They Go? The Gettysburg Campaign**
Follow the Union and Confederate armies southward from the battlefield across Maryland and Virginia during the weeks following the battle of Gettysburg and examine the many battles and events that impacted both after the guns fell silent in Pennsylvania.
William Child, the Smoketown Hospital, and the Aftermath at Antietam

Antietam remains the single-bloodiest day in American military history, with nearly 23,000 casualties in just 9 hours of combat. Hear the stories and challenges of the longest-operated field hospital at Antietam, the Smoketown Hospital. Through the letters and diary entries of William Child, Assistant Surgeon of the 5th New Hampshire, you can hear of the next fight for the many wounded left in the battle’s wake: survival.
William Lee White graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a B.A. in History and works as a ranger at the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park where he presents talks and tours on all phases of the battles for Chattanooga. He edited “Great Things Are Expected of Us”: The Letters of Colonel C. Irvine Walker, 10th South Carolina, CSA, part of the University of Tennessee’s Voices of the Civil War series, and has authored several essays on various topics relating to the Civil War in the Western Theater. He’s also been published in America’s Civil War. He’s author of Bushwhacking on A Grand Scale: The Battle of Chickamauga and Let Us Die Like Men: The Battle of Franklin, both part of the Emerging Civil War Series, and edited a portion of the diary of Patrick Cleburne that appears in Dr. Steven Woodworth’s Civil War Campaigns in the Heartland Series’ volume on the 1864 Tennessee Campaign.

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Most talks last about 45 mins to 1 Hours, though that can be adjusted if needed. Geographic availability: Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, South Carolina, Western North Carolina, and Kentucky. But can travel to other areas depending on schedule and accommodations.

Chickamauga: The Struggle along the Banks of the River of Death
Fought in the dark North Georgia woods the Battle of Chickamauga is the
one battle everyone knows, but knows nothing about. Tells the story of the three bloodiest days on Georgia soil and why this battle mattered in the final days of the summer of 1863. Other presentations related to the Battle or the Struggle for Chattanooga are available upon request.

“Their Bodies Lie Piled on One Another”: The Battle of Kolb Farm
The battle of Kolb Farm, the first engagement along the Kennesaw Line, set the tone for the final phase of the struggle for the city of Atlanta.

“Great Things Are Expected of Us”: A Young Carolinian Goes to War
The unique story of C. Irvine Walker, a young South Carolina officer in the Army of Tennessee. Walker offers new and vivid account of the campaigns and battles of the Confederacy’s main western army.

Red Blood and Red Dirt: The Battle of Resaca
This is the story of the Battle of Resaca, the largest battle fought on Georgia soil and bloodiest of the Atlanta Campaign. The program looks at both the fighting and the men who fought there.

“Hold the Fort!”: The Battle of Allatoona Pass
Examines the savage, though now largely forgotten battle fought to protect Sherman’s lifeline that set the tone for Hood's Tennessee Campaign.

“Stonewall of the West”: Patrick R. Cleburne’s last 370 Days
Patrick Cleburne reputation rose like a meteor across the Confederacy in the last days of 1863. A year later, the South would morn the loss of their second Stonewall.

The Campaign that Everyone Forgot:
Hood’s North Georgia/Alabama Campaign of 1864
Examines what happened for the Army of Tennessee between the fall of Atlanta and the Battle of Franklin.

“Give a Little Charity”: The Case for Braxton Bragg
“None of Bragg’s soldiers ever loved him. They had no faith in his ability as a general,” said Sam Watkins in his beloved Co. Aytch—but is it true? A reassessment of Braxton Bragg, focusing on his popularity among his soldiers and among his lieutenants.

They Shall Not Pass: The Battle of Ringgold Gap
Among one of the greatest disasters of the Army of Tennessee came one of its greatest triumphs in the final battle in the struggle for Chattanooga. The
Battle of Ringgold Gap would see triumph and tragedy and start the rise of General Patrick Cleburne.

“Like Driftwood in a Squall”:
**Alexander P. Stewart’s Assault at Chickamauga**
Looks at the only truly successful Confederate action in the bloody game of tic tac toe that defined the bloody fighting on September 19th, 1863.

**Forgotten Saviors: The Role of the Confederate Cavalry in the Battle of Pickett’s Mill**
Tells the story of the role of Joe Wheeler’s Cavalry in the battle that Sherman chose to forget.

**Riding a Raid: Joe Wheeler’s October 1863 Raid**
In the aftermath of the Battle of Chickamauga, Braxton Bragg sent Joe Wheeler to raid the Union supply lines north of Chattanooga. Although Wheeler met with some initial success, things quickly fell apart. This talk will look at what happened and what went wrong.

**Riding into Oblivion: Joe Wheeler’s Last Raid**
In a final effort to save Atlanta, General John Bell Hood detached Joe Wheeler’s Cavalry Corps and sent them north to attack Sherman’s supply lines. However, a series of mistakes and problems ensued that soon found Wheeler’s men scattered to the winds, with some of his men fighting in South West Virginia, others on the Cumberland Plateau, and still more in Middle Tennessee. What happened?

**General Bragg’s Army**
A look at the men that served under Bragg and Hood in the Army of Tennessee. Who were they? Why did they fight? What did they do? And what was their legacy?

**Bottom Rail on Top Now:**
**The United States Colored Troops in the Western Theater**
This program looks at a number of the African American regiments that were formed and fought in Tennessee, Alabama, and North Georgia with emphasis on the Battle of Nashville.

**Nadine Turchin: From Russia with Love—or Maybe Contempt**
Nadine Turchin followed her husband, General John Turchin, into the field in 1861 and from then on she was as a force to be reckoned with off and on the battlefield.
White Star Rising: John Geary’s Division in the West
Transferred with Joe Hooker to the West during his quest for redemption in the fall of 1863, the White Star Division would become the mountain assault division of the Union Army of the Cumberland from Lookout Mountain to Dug Gap.

Western Palmettos:
The South Carolina Troops that served in the Army of Tennessee.
A handful of South Carolina Troops served in the Army of Tennessee. Though small in number, they made a big impact on many fields of the Western Theater.

“Sherman Would Not Have A Man Left”:
The Whitworth Sharpshooters of the Army of Tennessee
Looks at the role of the deadly Whitworth Sharpshooters of the Army of Tennessee.
Emerging Civil War serves as a public history-oriented platform for sharing original scholarship related to the American Civil War.

Our primary audience is the general public, so scholarship is defined broadly: historical research, memory studies, travelogues, personal narratives, essays, book reviews, and photography. Journalistic-style coverage of current Civil War-related events and the Civil War in pop culture are also included. Furthermore, ECW encourages respectful discussion about that material. ECW does not publish fiction or poetry.

ECW seeks to encourage a diversity of perspectives in the scholarship it presents. We do that, in part, by identifying and spotlighting the next generation of Civil War historians and the fresh ideas they bring to the historical conversation.

As a collective, the individuals who comprise ECW are encouraged to share their own unique interests and approaches. The combined collection of material—and the respectful discussions that surround it—forward ECW’s overall effort to promote a general awareness of the Civil War as America’s defining event.

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