HALLOWED GROUND

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Battles with the Sun

Monmouth & Cedar Mountain plus Sackets Harbor
ENJOY WRITING THIS LETTER in each issue of Hallowed Ground because it gives me the opportunity to call your attention to some of the exciting developments taking place across the organization. Well, in this instance, most of the tidbits I have to share are actually about this magazine — new ways that we’re making this membership publication even more relevant to our supporters.

If you haven’t visited the online home for Hallowed Ground in a while, I’d encourage you to do so — we’ve been making big improvements. In addition to finding the history content that originates in these pages integrated into our broader website, you’ll find related feature-length content available only online. We preview these articles, videos, galleries and more on page 3, and I hope that when you write to seek them out digitally.

In response to popular demand, you’ll now find PDF editions of recent issues available to peruse. If you have friends who love history, I hope you’ll tell them to check these out. It lets you introduce them to the organization via this beautiful and informative publication, without having to surrender your own copy! Find all this and more at www.battlefields.org/hallowedground.

Over the years, we’ve heard from many people that articles in Hallowed Ground make great background reading when they’re planning a trip to visit a battlefield. Starting with this issue, we are taking that natural connection further. When you read a feature article about a particular battle, you can look online to find our suggested itinerary for making a trip there, including recommendations on places to stay, eat, shop and visit. The historians we work with to craft these feature articles have typically spent incredible amounts of time at these sites — as, often, have our staff — and we’re excited to pass a different sort of their expertise on to you.

Also beginning in this issue, you’ll find a new recurring department, Nature of History, where we showcase the many ways in which battlefields are more than cultural resources; they’re also natural resources.

Finally, if you turn back a page, I’d like to call your attention to a part of this magazine that you probably often overlook. Technically termed “the masthead,” it’s the list of trustees and staff who are the beating heart of the organization. Well, if you look closely, you’ll notice a new category: the Alumni Board.

It’s no secret that our all-volunteer Board of Trustees is among the finest in the nonprofit sector. We have found, time and again, that when our bylaws require a trustee’s term in our leadership to end, they are still eager to play a role in the organization. The Alumni Board is made up of the most committed and dynamic past trustees of this organization who wish to continue to lend their experience and institutional knowledge to the staff and the current board as the Trust continues to grow and thrive. I have enjoyed working with these men and women for many years and I am so glad we have found a means to formalize their ongoing role within the organization.

JIM LIGHTHIZER
President, American Battlefield Trust
LEGISLATIVE TRIUMPH
for battlefield preservation

N MARCH 12, President Trump signed into law the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act — a bipartisan bill that has sweeping and lasting benefits for battlefield preservation. Perhaps most significantly, the act includes permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the funding source for the American Battlefield Protection Program’s Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants Program. The matching grants from this program are those most frequently employed by the Trust to create public-private partnerships for land preservation. LWCF is a much broader conservation initiative that has been employed in nearly every county in the country since 1964, all without costing taxpayers, as the monies are paid as royalties from offshore oil and gas leases.

The act also formalizes the creation of Camp Nelson National Monument and Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument, both in Kentucky — two sites the Trust has long championed. Likewise, the Trust has been a perpetual advocate of efforts to expand the boundaries of Shiloh National Military Park and Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, both of which came to fruition in this bill. Lastly, the act changes the name of Fort Sumter National Monument to Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park.

STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS bring flurry of activity

HE OPENING MONTHS of 2019 were busy ones in the state capitals of Virginia and Kentucky as legislators gathered for short General Assembly sessions. In Richmond and Frankfort, the Trust worked with legislative allies to raise awareness of battlefield preservation opportunities and advance key measures in support of our cause.

In Virginia, a bipartisan group of legislators — including Sens. Rosalyn Dance, Frank Rufer, and Jill Vogel, as well as Delegate Barry Knight — championed budget amendments that would have boosted the appropriation for the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund (VBPF). Ultimately funded at $1 million in Fiscal Year 2019, VBPF is a matching-grant program that has helped preserve more than 850 acres of battlefield land across the Old Dominion.

Five hundred miles to the west, the Trust cohosted a legislative reception in February with the Kentucky Civil War Sites Association at the Kentucky History Center in Frankfort to unveil the results of the Kentucky Battlefields Study, a report on the economic impact of Kentucky’s battlefields and associated historic sites. The reception was attended by key government officials and battlefield preservation organizations from across the Commonwealth.
FROM THE TRENCHES
BREAKING PRESERVATION NEWS

MONUMENT HONORING BEARS
dedicated at Champion Hill, Miss.

URNG the 2018 Annual Conference, the American Battlefield Trust rededicated its lifetime achievement award in the name of legendary historian and preservationist Edwin Cole Bearss, further announc¬
ing that a monument would be erected in his honor on Bearss’s
dedicated Champion Hill Battlefield in Mississippi. This pledge came to fruition on Friday, May 3, as a crowd gathered for a ceremonial unveiling of the marker.

“Edu’s contributions to the study of Civil War history and the protection of tangible links to that past — whether the preservation of battlefield landscapes or the raising of the U.S. Colored — is noth¬
ing short of monumental,” said Trust President James Lighthizer. “The erection of this permanent tribute to his life’s work is a fitting way to honor his unswerving commitment to the cause of historic preservation.”

Badly wounded by Japanese machine-gun fire in the Pacific during World War II, Ed Bearss spent 26 months recovering in military hospitals, where he devoted countless hours to reading history. A Montana native educated in a one-room schoolhouse, Bearss began his long and storied National Park Service career in 1955 at Vicks¬
burg National Military Park. From 1958 to 1984, he served as the chief historian of the National Park Service. In the nearly 15 years since his retirement, Bearss — who turns 96 in June — has continued his passionate pursuit of history education.

He travels the globe to lecture and give battlefield tours, remaining among the most sought after guides in military history.

The Battle of Champion Hill was the largest and bloodiest
action of Union Maj. Gen. Ulysses Grant’s Vicksburg Cam¬
paign. On May 16, 1863, following the Union capture of Jack¬
son, Miss., Grant’s 32,000 advancing soldiers met 22,000 Confederates under Maj. Gen. Jon C. Pemberton in a fierce struggle for a vital crossroads roughly halfway between the state capital and Vicksburg, a key location on the Mississippi River. The decisive Union victories at Champion Hill and Big Black River Bridge, fought the next day, were instrumental in forcing the Confederates out in the open and into a doomed position inside the fortifications of Vicksburg.

LATEST ROUND OF STATEWIDE GRANTS
will grow four Tennessee battlefield parks

Largest $3.5 million has been awarded to the American Battlefield Trust via the Tenne¬
see Civil War Sites Preservation Fund (TCWSFP) to protect 190 acres on five battlefields. The largest tract, 120 acres at Jack¬
son, protects 25 percent of the core battlefield in a single transaction. While the most expensive — $1.8 million to¬
ward the purchase of 42 acres at Stones River — represents perhaps the most sig¬nificant preservation effort since the designation of the national battlefield in 1960. Additional projects include 1.5 acres at Franklin, eight acres at Shiloh and nine acres at the Wauhatchie Battlefield in Chattanooga. TCWSFP was created in 2013 to pro¬
tect sites associated with the Civil War and the Underground Railroad and is the only permanently funded state-level program for battlefield protection in the nation.

PARK DAY 2019
SETS RECORD FOR PARTICIPATING SITES

OR 23 YEARS, Park Day has been a springtime rite of passage, with history lovers across the nation gathering at historic sites to volunteer their time on behalf of those important places. And Park Day 2019 was our most successful to date!

All told, 166 sites participated, representing 31 states — from Maine to California — and the District of Columbia. Ultimately nearly 7,000 volunteers donated more than 25,000 hours of labor performing maintenance and upkeep work at parks, museums and cemeteries. In addition to Trust members, volunteers included local residents, school groups, local Boy and Girl Scout troops, JROTC units and other community groups.

At Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland, about 40 volunteers helped with vegetation removal and raking in the national cemetery and mulching in the youth group campground. The park also provided a tour of the Sherrick House, which is not typically open to the public.

At Bufford Massacre Battlefield in Lancaster, S.C., JROTC students from Buford High School and 15 additional volunteers helped clear the park of leaves and debris, including about 600 feet of overgrowth vegetation.

Fort Clinch State Park in Florida had 17 volunteers who put in 102 hours of work leveling walkways around the fort and stabilizing the masonry that will be used during this year’s living history weekends. The volunteers came from a variety of groups that help the park, from living historians and their friends and family, to the local community.

Princeton Battlefield State Park in New Jersey drew about 100 volunteers to clear brush and maintain trails before enjoying historical interpretation of the Battle of Princeton.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW: Park Day 2020 has been scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 2020!

IN MEMORIAM

THE TRUST mourns the loss of chairman emeritus, Lester G. “Ruff” Fant, III, who passed away on May 19.

“Ruff was not only a lifelong personal friend of mine,” said Trust President James Lighthizer, “but as the last chairman of the original Civil War Trust, he was instrumen¬
tal in the merger that ultimately created the American Battlefield Trust. He was a found¬
ing Board member of our organization, a generous benefactor and a significant contributor to policy and governance in our organization over our history. Our thoughts are with Ruff’s wife, Susan, and son, Henry, during this difficult time.”

I N RECENT MONTHS, Trust staff have shared the organiza¬
tion’s considerable expertise with colleagues in the land conservation and historic preservation fields through pre¬
sentations at several important conferences.

Members of our policy and real estate teams spoke to Virginia’s United Land Trusts at their annual Land Conservation and Development Conference in April, presenting a session that celebrated the 20th anniver¬
sary of the Virginia land pres¬
servation tax credit program.

Trust staff were also on hand to share our successes during the Advocacy Week organized by the National Council of State Historic Preservation Officers and in pres¬
t at the Nature Conservancy’s Conference, Balancing Nature & Commerce.

INDUSTRY
CONFERENCES

showcase Trust successes

THE TRUST joins the entire Civil War com¬
munity in mourning the passing of historian Dr. Richard Sommers. In his more than 40 years at the U.S. Army Military History Institute/U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, Dick was an indispensable part of the research projects of en¬
tire generation of historians. A beloved fixture of Trust Annual Conferences, he will be missed for his unparalleled expertise, his ready wit and his gentle demeanor.
MORE THAN two dozen special volunteers made a lasting impact at Monocacy National Battlefield during Park Day 2019, as the American Battlefield Trust teamed up with the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) and The Mission Continues to bring today’s combat veterans to one of the Civil War’s most significant battlefields.

“We’ve been at war for almost 18 years now, and the battlefields where our brave men and women fought are in far off places around the globe,” said René Barfoed, WWP senior vice president of government and community relations. “However, right here in America are hallowed grounds, where we can stop to reflect on the battles we have fought, and the lives that were sacrificed, in the building of this great nation. We’re proud to work alongside the team and volunteers at the American Battlefield Trust to help preserve this critical part of our American history.”

Upon arriving at the site on Saturday morning, the veterans from across the Washington metropolitan area set to work removing a historically inaccurate fence line from around the park’s headquarters. Although it dated to the period before the national park took ownership of the property, the fence was in stable condition and removing it was a strenuous job, one well-suited to these skilled volunteers.

Coleman Brooks, the Mid-Atlantic regional alumni director for the Wounded Warrior Project and a veteran himself, noted that the idea of protecting and caring for historic battlefields is a natural fit for those who have worn the uniform of our military more recently.

“Unlike Vietnam, Korea, Europe and the Pacific, this generation of veterans is not going to be going back and visiting the battlefields that we fought on, at least not for another 50 to 100 years,” he said. “Not being able to go back to those battlefields and have a catharsis … so taking control of hallowed ground here instead of places where we may have lost buddies is a different, unique way of being able to do that.”

Michael Carraquillo, a U.S. Army veteran of two combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, calls Frederick County home, which made participating at Monocacy especially meaningful.

“As warriors, as veterans, we served this country,” he said. “What better way to continue serving after service than serving here at home? I just think it’s a perfect blend of opportunities for warriors to continue being part of something bigger than themselves.”

That sentiment is at the very heart of The Mission Continues, according to the group’s Washington 3rd Platoon leader David DufBois.

“Veterans set the standards when it comes to service,” he said. “Allowing others to see veterans involved with community service projects allows them to appreciate and actually want to join in with those veterans to give back to their communities.”

Although this was the first joint effort between the three organizations, it was an immense success and will be built upon to create lasting partnerships.
FIELD REPORTS
LOCAL PARTNERS AND ALLIES

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR MUSEUM
New, state-of-the-art facility opens in Richmond

The AMERICAN CIVIL WAR MUSEUM in Richmond opened the doors to its facility adjacent to the Historic Tredegar Iron Works on May 4, 2019, with daylong festivities. The 28,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility aims to meld an unsurpassed collection of artifacts with a historic landscape and even integrate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. The Trust celebrates with our friends and partners as this exciting new era in Civil War interpretation begins. Richmond, and Virginia more broadly, has gained another exceptional draw to bring visitors to this historic community.

ULPEREER COUNTY VA., is home to two of the Civil War’s most significant battlefields, and the Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain State Park Alliance is working diligently to see the pair of sites transformed into the Commonwealth's next state park.

Even among Virginia’s many premier Civil War battlefields, Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain stand out. The Battle of Brandy Station — the first engagement of the legendary 1863 Gettysburg Campaign — was the largest cavalry battle ever fought in any war waged on this continent. In 1864, the Federal Army of the Potomac also made Brandy Station the site of its largest-ever winter encampment. Two years prior, the Battle of Cedar Mountain marked the first major Civil War battle in Culpeper County — and, with an estimated 2,707 casualties, was also its bloodiest.

To date, the preservation community has permanently set aside more than 1,000 acres of land across the two battlefields. This acreage, nestled between the Rappahanonok and Rapidan Rivers, is not just historic — it is incredibly picturesque. A state park would increase tourism among those seeking to explore history and those in search of outdoor recreation, all in a region currently underserved by the Virginia state park system. Moreover, the fundamental building blocks for a new park are already in place: existing visitor facilities, a series of interpretive trails with accompanying signage, parking areas and an active support network rooted in the Brandy Station Foundation and the Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield.

These two groups are at the heart of the Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain State Park Alliance, alongside other local and regional organizations, including the Culpeper Department of Tourism, the Germanna Foundation, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, the Museum of Culpeper History, the Piedmont Environmental Council, Preservation Virginia, the Remington Community Partnership and the Virginia Association for Parks, as well as the American Battlefield Trust.

With the steadfast support of Culpeper County, the Town of Culpeper and the greater Culpeper community secured, the Alliance has been working to educate members of the Commonwealth’s General Assembly about the opportunities presented by this turnkey park proposal. In 2015, the Alliance partnered with a consulting team helmed by STACI plc to produce a professional feasibility study assessing the opportunities and economic advantages of establishing the envisioned state park. The compelling case set forward in that report recruited many new supporters to the cause and brought increased attention to the proposal.

In both 2018 and 2019, the state Senate has advanced budget language championed by Sens. Emmett Hanger and Bryce Reeves to direct the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to formally review and make recommendations pertaining to the parks’ creation. Such a measure would position the proposed parksland for a smooth and well-ordered transition from the Trust and our partners in Culpeper to the Commonwealth.

The Alliance is continuing to consolidate support for the park proposal in the House of Delegates, where Del. Michael Weber has taken the lead in championsing relevant legislative efforts to date.
**ANTITAM, GETTYSBURG & MONOCACY**

utilize prescribed burns to maintain historic landscapes

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**T DAWN’S first light** on August 16, 1786, Patriot Major General Horatio Gates and British Lieutenant General Lord Charles Cornwallis commenced an artillery duel under the high canopy of a virgin longleaf pine forest. Battle-hardened veteran British troops were matched against inexperienced North Carolina and Virginia militia, sending the Patriot left into a panicked headlong flight. The British, although outnumbered two to one, had won a complete victory and Cornwallis was inspired to optimistically leave South Carolina for North Carolina and, ultimately, defeat at Yorktown, Va.

Today, the longleaf forests of the Southeast are suffering the same fate as the Patriot army in Camden — they have been all but vanquished. A mere 3 percent of the 90 million acres of the once vast longleaf ecosystem remains. Although a colossal Patriot defeat, the Battle of Camden was a critical battle of the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution, but for years it was lost to public interest. Similarly, the battlefield terrain was again obscured and lost from view by thick woods, the result of decades of commercial timber operations. In April 2010, the Historic Camden Foundation became steward of the 476-acre battlefield core, with the mission of resuscitating public awareness of this significant Revolutionary War battlefield.

Rather than embarking on a traditional battlefield restoration and interpretation program, Historic Camden included two additional elements: natural resources and recreation. The Camden Battlefield and Longleaf Pine Preserve was created.

A multigenerational plan now exists to reforest 420 acres to longleaf pine. In the meantime, 200 acres of thinned mixed pine forest create the appearance of a 1780s longleaf savannah — albeit with younger trees — that visitors can enjoy immediately. Staging the removal of non-longleaf pines drives revenue that will be reinvested into the planting of longleaf. Reserving the majority of timber profits for 15 years of anticipated expenses — for both natural resources and historical interpretation — allows planted longleaf to mature to produce sustainable income from pine straw and forest products to provide future self-generated revenue. By adding a recreational dimension, forest firesbreaks, and interpretive history paths become walking paths for easy public access. Designated acreage for a permanent primitive Scout camp adds even more recreational value and has produced dividends of troop and Eagle Scout service projects. Naturalist enthusiasts of all stripes have a new recreational venue unlike any tract of land in the area.

Today’s supporters of the battlefield preserve include history, natural resources and recreational fans and, critically, financial donors. With the diversity of parallel interests, the battlefield preserve has developed a multitude of partners interested in collaborative efforts. The preserve now has a strong relationship with Clemson University — including undergraduate and graduate class field trip participation — and the Longleaf Alliance, as well as other natural resources organizations. Scouting activities are a direct outreach to young people and their parents. Historic Camden’s longstanding bond with Revolutionary War reenactors has achieved a new high, with planned reenactments on the actual battlefield. Providing an additional eight miles of recreational trails in a county that cherishes such access is economically beneficial. Because of the forward movement in Historic Camden’s efforts, the American Battlefield Trust just acquired an additional 294.4 acres of adjoining battlefield land that will be transferred to the preserve in due course. This timbered property will allow replication of our winning approach of combining history, natural resources and recreation.

Perhaps most significantly, with the implementation of this plan, the terrain is again visible. Visitors actually see the battlefield as it was then, when they visit now for a deeper understanding of this hallowed ground.
RESTORING CEDAR MOUNTAIN
Partnership creates an ever-improving visitor experience

OR MORE THAN 15 YEARS, the Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield and the American Battlefield Trust have worked hand in hand to restore this important site to more closely resemble its wartime appearance and to improve the experience of visitors. Many of these efforts have been volunteer-driven, the product of successful Park Day activities. Projects have been both large and small, but they combine to create an impressive tapestry of land stewardship achievement.

BATTLEFIELD LANDMARKS
In 2006 – 2007, more than 2,000 trees were planted on a 6.5-acre parcel, recreating a wooded area present at the time of the battle. Other areas known to have been cleared during the fighting have had scrub, brambles and invasive vegetation removed.

A portion of the Orange-Calpepper Road has been restored, giving visitors a better understanding of period transportation networks and their importance as logistical lifelines and military targets. A split-rail fence alongside the restored road brings the field even further toward how it appeared at the time.

In 2018, local Eagle Scout Zach Wright targeted Cedar Mountain for his culminating project, which involved both construction and the replacement of invasive plant species with native vegetation. With assistance from friends and family, he built an......

The Crittenden Gate was the site of heavy fighting August 9, 1862. USA Troop 225 completed a fifth Eagle Scout project on Cedar Mountain Battlefield. Scout Zach Wright (center) coordinated the latest effort, alongside his father Dale (left) and fellow scout Travis Badger (right), in coordination with Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield board member and scout liaison Sam Pratt.

exact re-creation of the Crittenden Gate, which stood at the center of the Confederates battle line. His work replaced an earlier gate that did not have a period-appropriate appearance.

INTERPRETATION AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE
Since 2014, the Trust’s property has been home to a half-mile interpretive trail designed to help orient visitors to the fact, intense fighting that occurred at Cedar Mountain.

Several additional Eagle Scout projects have greatly enhanced the experience of visitors to Cedar Mountain. These include constructing a bridge that provides access to a scenic pond from the main interpretive trail, building a trail so visitors can access an early cemetery on the field, developing a picnic area and placing benches along the walking trails.

The Friends of Cedar Mountain maintain a visitor contact station at a modern home at a non-obtrusive location on the field. The building also serves as headquarters for this exceptional local steward and friends group.

Cedar Mountain is also home to two period-appropriate 10 lbs. Parrott rifles in the position held by Capt. William Pogue’s section of the 1st Rockbridge Artillery. The guns had conveyed with the sale of a Trust-protected property in Gettysburg but were not interpretively appropriate at that location. In other locations on the properties, the Trust has installed silhouettes cannons to visually represent major artillery emplacements.
In August 1862, photographer Timothy O'Sullivan, an associate of the renowned Mathew Brady, traveled to Northern Virginia to capture images in the aftermath of the Battle of Cedar Mountain. That engagement, fought on August 9, 1862, was part of the Northern Virginia Campaign. Union Maj. Gen. John Pope was advancing through Virginia in hopes of capturing the railroad at nearby Gordonsville, when his troops ran into Lt. Gen. Thomas 'Stonewall' Jackson's 14,000 Confederates. Confederate troops set up their artillery along the intersection of the Orange-Culpeper Road and Crittenden Lane, a spot that became known as "the Gate." Although Confederate guns fired from this position for nearly two hours, deadly return fire from Union cannon slowed the advance of Confederate infantry through this area. The American Battlefield Trust preserved 152 acres here in 1998.

The fascinating pairs of period photos at right show a fresh battlefield in the condition experienced by soldiers who fought there. Careful analysis by Garry Adelman, the Trust's director of history and education and vice president of the Center for Civil War Photography, has demonstrated that the images show the same portion of the battlefield — land preserved by the Trust — from opposite directions. The two trees circled in the left image are in the foreground of the one on the right. The area circled in red on the right approximates the spot where the men in the left photo are standing beside fresh Union graves. The circle in the photo on the left indicates the damaged fence line and disturbed ground from recent burials that appear in the photo on the right.

THE CIRCLE in the photo on the left indicates the damaged fence line and disturbed ground from recent burials that appear in the photo on the right. THE ARROWS extending from the detail of the photo on the left indicate the specific parts of trees and hedge corresponding with the photo on the right. THESE SIDE-BY-SIDE PHOTOS show a portion of the Crittenden Lane then and now. The circled wood line in the August 1862 photo, left, still maintains the same contour today, as seen in the modern photo at right. The American Battlefield Trust land is to the right of the road and in the distant wood line. BUDDY SECOR

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**A CLOSER VIEW OF CEDAR MOUNTAIN**

Analysis of period photographs reveals hidden details to help us better understand the battlefield.
IN
the
HEAT
of the Moment

JUNE 1778
THE BATTLE of MONMOUTH
By Jason R. Wickersham
Photography by Meredith Barnes

THE CONTINENTALS HAD AN EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY AS THE BRITISH ARMY WITHDRAWN FROM PHILADELPHIA TO NEW YORK. IF THEY SURVIVED THE SWELTERING HEAT, MIGHT THEY STILL SQUANDER IT?
“Huzza! Long live the king of France!”

The French forces, approximately 20,000 strong, including the women and children attached to the army, had crossed the Delaware River and were moving north. Washington had to act.

Three Continental brigades — those of Generals Joel Heath, Jonathan Scott, and Nathanael Greene — were ordered to march at 5:00 a.m. on the 18th, under the command of General Charles Lee, who had only recently returned to the army after his capture in December 1776. Two hours later, General Anthony Wayne was dispatched with three additional brigades of Pennsylvania troops. Together, Lee and Wayne crossed the Delaware and established a camp in New Jersey. The rest of the army followed the next day — they had a "dangerous glorious race to run" to catch Clinton.

Lucky for Washington, Brigadier General William Maxwell's New Jersey Brigade was advantageously stationed to slow Clinton. Portions of the brigade had already been posted in southern Jersey since March to guard against any British foraging incursions. Now, bolstered by new nine-month levies, along with between 1,500 and 2,000 of their comrades in the Jersey militia, the Hessians set to making the British advance as difficult as possible by felling trees and skirmishing at every opportunity. Sizable engagements were fought on June 23 between the militia and British troops at Bordentown and Crosswicks.

June 24 was a day of decision for both armies. For Clinton, Allentown was a literal crossroads. The shortest route to New York was north to New Brunswick and across the wide Raritan River, then east along the Post Road. However, this not only would take the army through a largely Wicomico area of the state with an active and veteran corps of militia ready to pounce, it also presented a major logistical challenge. The British baggage train consisted of approximately 1,500 wagons, but only two bridges spanned the river at Brunswick and Raritan Landing.

Instead, Clinton opted for the longer, safer, earthier route through Monmouth County to Sandy Hook, a peninsula that jutted into New York Harbor. Making for Sandy Hook would extend Clinton's march by several miles and involve a more extensive transport role by the Royal Navy to bring the army to New York, but it would be through more-friendy territory.

Meanwhile, 25 miles away at Hopewell, N.J., Washington convened a second Council of War. All in attendance again agreed that there should be no general action, and Lee even went so far as to insist that they allow Clinton to march unopposed across New Jersey. A future allied Anglo-French operation would surely be more successful as a small demonstration now. Nevertheless, a detachment of 1,500 Continentals under General Charles Scott would be dispatched to aid Maxwell in harassing the British march, while the main body would keep its course and "act as circumstances may require."

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As he was overthrown by the enemy, Parsons was also bayoneted, clubbed and, to add insult to injury, had his watch, canteen of rum and wallet stolen, before he was left for dead in the scorching 96-degree heat.

As the brief fight at the Point of Woods was underway, Washington looked to Lee to organize further delaying positions while he supervised the deployment of the main American position. Lee positioned Varnum’s brigade and a battalion under Henry Livingston along a hedgerow and fence line about a half mile to the west of the Point of Woods that guarded the approach to a bridge over the West Monocacy, across which the main American position was coming out near high ground called Perrine Ridge. Survivors of the Point of Woods filtered through the hedge, as the Guards and 1st and 2nd Battalions of Grenadiers “pushed on briskly with their Bayonets, which … they did with true British spirit.” They were spurred along by General Clinton himself, who was “galloping like a Newmarket jockey at the head of the right, Lafayette also started to pull back. Communication was breaking down, and Lee was losing control of the situation. With Cornwallis bearing down on him, he had no choice but to order a retreat. By this time, the main body of the Continental Army was passing the white clapboard Tennent Presbyterian Meeting House, about four miles west of Monmouth Courthouse. Washington rode ahead to assess the situation, and was surprised to be met with confused men and officers streaming back toward Elizabethtown. It was now obvious that Lee’s attack had failed, and Washington needed to know why. He rode forward and, as one Continental later remembered, Washington called out to Lee, “What is this you have been about to day?” Lee, stammering at first, replied that he had no choice but to retreat. Washington was having none of it.

It was now about 1:00 p.m., and with Clinton bearing down on the disorganized Continentals, Washington had 15 minutes to stabilize the situation. He ordered Colonel Walter Stewart and Colonel Nathaniel Ramsey’s battalions of picked men, as well as a consolidated Virginia regiment forward into a “Point of Woods” to delay the British advance. One of these picked men was 21-year-old Solomon Parsons, drawn from Colonel Timothy Bigelow’s 15th Massachusetts. He managed to fire three shots before he was forced to flee. "I wheeled to the left," Parsons recalled, "and observed that the enemy had flanked our men, which were out of the woods. I got ten rods, and the enemy … fired a platoon upon me. One ball struck my heel, which much disabled me. The next platoon on the left fired on me, and broke my thigh."
a wing of Grenadiers’ shouting, “Charge Grenadiers! Never heed burning!” Varnum and Livingson opened the fiercest fire of the battle, supported by two pieces of artillery firing grapeshot through the breach in the wooden fence.

The action at the hedgerow was sharp and quick, lasting only a few volleys before the Americans disengaged and made a quick but orderly retreat across the bridge at the West Moriah to the safety of the American line. Grenadiers pursued the retreating Americans across the bridge, but as they crested a small rise approximately a few hundred yards later, they were swept by canister and musketry from Perrine Ridge.

It was now time for General Henry Knox and the Continental artillery to take center stage, with a counter-battery exchange involving approximately 16 guns arrayed along Perrine Ridge firing solid shot. The British returned fire with both solid shot and shot and thickened rounds from two howitzers that joined the 14 pieces of the Royal Artillery deployed on a height just west of the hedgerow. British gunners, however, were cutting their fuses just a little too long, causing the shells not to burst overhead as intended, but instead on the ground and among the rail fences just below the artillery line where the Continentals were taking cover, wounding several from flying wooden splinters.

For most of the afternoon, the guns roared in what Colonel Henry Dearborn thought was the “finest music” he had ever heard, “yet the agreeableness of the music was very often Lesson’d by the balls coming too near.” Also taking cover with the infantry was Connecticut soldier Joseph Plumb Martin, who turned to watch the guns in action behind him and saw “a woman whose husband belonged to the artillery and who was then attached to a piece in the engagement, attending with her husband at the piece the entire time” bringing forward ammunition to the gunners. Tradition holds that this woman was Mary Hays, the wife of William Hays, an artilleryman in the 4th Continental Artillery Regiment, and who went by the nickname “Molly Pitcher” from her role as a water carrier for the parched men of the battery.

As the Continentals hugged the ground waiting out the cannonade, Washington rode “to and fro along the line, sometimes at full speed, looking noddy, excited, and calling loudly to the troops by the appellation of brave boys.”

The surprise arrival of an American brigade under General Nathanael Greene with four guns commanded by French Breton Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Antoine, Chevalier de Mourot du Plessis on Combs Hill, a prominence height less than a half mile from the British left flank, opened the hedgerow line to enfilade artillery fire, causing Clinton to withdraw.

As the British artillery fire eased, Washington’s attention was directed on Colonel Thomas Proctor’s battery, whose the troops by the appellation of brave boys.”

By now Clinton realized that the American position was too strong and he’d be unable to deliver a knockout punch.

men were throwing canister into an apple orchard approximately 500 yards to their front. Earlier in the morning, as the American vanguard was falling back from Freehold, the British 3rd Brigade under Major General Charles Grey, including the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment, gave chase to General Charles Scott’s detachment across the farm of John Craig just to the north of the Point of Woods. The timely arrival of Knox’s artillery coming onto line on Perrine Ridge stopped the advance of the 3rd Brigade, and its men were forced to take cover in a swale behind a cedar orchard on Derek Surplice’s farm, with the 42nd in the forward position among the apple trees.

By now, nearly eight hours after making first contact, Clinton realized that the American position was too strong and he’d be unable to deliver a knockout punch to Washington in a general engagement. Back on Perrine Ridge, Washington could see that the British were beginning to pull away and ordered Wayne to probe whatever enemy troops were still near the hedge. Cornwallis drove Wayne back into the farmhouses and barnyard complex of the Tenent Parsons. Du Plessis sprang his guns on Combs Hill back into action, once again delivering enfilading canister shot into the British left flank and forcing them to retreat back toward Freehold.

Near dusk, American pickets advanced east toward the Point of Woods. On the rising ground beyond the Kerr Farm lane, they found Solomon Parsons, who, after more than seven hours of lying out on the field, had not yet succumbed to his wounds. He was brought back to the field hospital established at the Jennett Meeting House.

That night, the American troops bivouacked on their arms on the battlefield, expecting the action to renew in the morning. Clinton, however, took a page from Washington’s playbook and, come morning, the British army was gone. By Clinton’s official report, the “engagement at the Heights of Freehold” cost him 65 killed, 140 wounded and 64 missing, with an additional 59 dead “with fatigue,” though Washington reported finding 249 officers and rank and file dead on the field.

The price for the Americans at Monmouth was 69 dead, 161 wounded and 140 missing. For the first time since Princeton, the Continental Army could credit itself with a successful battlefield performance. For many, Monmouth would be a day they would never forget, either because of the brutal heat or because of the wounds they were left with. Solomon Parsons survived until 1831, “suffering,” according to his monument, “53 years from a wound received at Monmouth Battle, where he bled for his Country. Reader, pause, recollect what it cost to gain your liberty!”

Jason R. Wicker, who holds a B.A. in history from Montclair State University, is a park ranger and media specialist at the National Park Service Gateway National Recreation Area. His research focuses on New Jersey during the American Revolution, particularly the impact the war had on the landscape and civilian population.
CONTROLLING THE WATERWAYS

DURING THE WAR OF 1812, THE FIGHT FOR THE GREAT LAKES AND THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER CULMINATED AT A SHIPYARD ON LAKE ONTARIO AT SACKETS HARBOR, NY. THE BRITISH FLEET HAD NO IDEA HOW FEISTY THE AMERICANS WOULD BE.

BY CONSTANCE BARONE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHASE BUTTMAN

NE YEAR into the conflict known as the War of 1812, both American and British forces were keen to exert control over Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Doing so would provide a major strategic advantage in the Great Lakes, one of the most hotly contested theaters of war.

American forces on Lake Ontario tried to break the stalemate in the spring of 1813 by attacking the British at York (present-day Toronto), then the capital of Upper Canada. On April 27, 2,700 Americans stormed Fort York, defeating the 750 British and Ojibwa Indians stationed there and forcing their retreat to the military stronghold at Kingston. But the victory came at a high cost and with little strategic benefit, as the Americans were unable to capitalize on their gains.

In retaliation, the British and Canadians embarked on a raid against the American shipbuilding infrastructure at Sackets Harbor, which lay within easy striking distance of the British at Kingston. When the shipyard was left vulnerable — American troops being engaged at the opposite end of the lake in the Niagara region — the British moved to strike.

The attack came in the rainy pre-dawn hours of May 29. Brigadier General Jacob Brown, of the New York militia, the senior American officer present, looked to the horizon and realized the “[f]leet approaching was an Enemy, and with a glass we could distinctly see that they had a very liberal supply of Boats — I then no longer doubted but that they were resolved to land with a chosen body of troops and storm our works.”

British troops, personally led by General Sir George Prevost, governor general of Canada, made landfall about a mile west of the village on Horse Island and opposite the island on the mainland shore. Those who landed on the island waded across to the mainland on a submerged natural rocky causeway. The advancing troops were met on the shore by New York militiamen, who were unable to stop the invading party, and rapidly withdrew.

Among the best firsthand descriptions of the battle is that of Balthasar Kramer, written only a few days after the engagement:

“On Volunteer's on camp but at 4 O'Clock in the morning the Battle began. The British had twelve hundred men they was Only one hundred and fifty of Volunteers we Retreited Off the lands and form'd for battle and in a few moments the Gun up to us and we fought them with great Spirit”

When the fight resumed on the mainland, the assault was met with considerable resistance by the U.S. Regular Troops stationed there. After a three-hour engagement, the invaders retreated heading west to the shore and causeway, and again crossing over Horse Island en route back to their ships.

The Battle of Sackets Harbor had major multinational implications. The Americans successfully defended a strategic shipbuilding facility and military operations headquarters on Lake Ontario. For the British, their failure to seize the command post was a major lost opportunity. Among First Nations and Native American peoples, the engagement demonstrated the complex forces that drove allegiances — two groups are documented as having fought with the British-Canadians, whereas another volunteered to serve with U.S. troops.

Today, the battlefield at Sackets Harbor retains remarkable integrity, for which it was recognized in the 2007 National Park
located just offshore from the village, from the American Battlefield Trust — a project that marked the organization’s first foray into land associated with the War of 1812. Soon, a mainland waterfront plot opposite the island will also become protected through the cooperative efforts of the Trust and NY State Parks. That island’s natural environment remains relatively undisturbed, with little public access during private ownership for the past 62 years. During that time period, significant advances in understanding of the battlefield were made. Starting in 1967, NY State Parks’ Bureau of Historic Site laid the basis for professional archaeological studies on-site through seasonal work conducted by Charles Frazier, Paul Haury and William Herrshey. In time, underwater archaeologists Art Cohn and Kevin Curran explored critical knowledge of the community’s role in the war. In recent years, Ben Ford attempted to locate War of 1812 shipwrecks in the bay while exploring Lake Ontario’s maritime cultural landscape. The National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program funded a 2009 archaeology study of the mainland battlegrounds, conducted by Hertgen Archeological Associates, which provided a wealth of information and helped define the battle’s boundaries. Such research continues to drive interpretive programming at the state historic site through exhibitions, publications and public programs. Results from any future cultural resources study on Horse Island will merge with information gained by previous explorations, resulting in a much more complete picture of the role the attackers and defenders played during the battle. Furthermore, studying Horse Island may very well yield archaeological deposits related to the earliest human occupation of the eastern Great Lakes Region, adding to the many already documented sites. Multinational recognition of the battle’s significance came during the War of 1812 Bicentennial, when American, Canadian, and British military personnel and civilians annually gathered in three consecutive years to commemorate the engagement. In 2013, the Crown Forces monument memorializing 42 of the opposing force’s soldiers killed during the battle and buried by the Americans was dedicated, and thanks to the combined efforts of American, Canadian and British researchers, more is known about these men. Military staff roles of Sackets Harbor originate from nearby U.S. Army Fort Drum reservation and the Canadian Royal Military College, located just across the lake in Kingston, Ontario. What is known of the battle comes from historical documentation, plus archaeology conducted on the mainland. Fortunately, there exists many primary historical documents recounting the battle in the form of diaries, notebooks, military logs and published recollections. Archaeologists and historians regularly contribute to the wealth of information gathered on Sackets Harbor’s role in the War of 1812. Documenting those who passed through this military center during the war years is an ongoing effort. To date, more than 10,000 names are stored in the site’s computer database. These names represent American-born men and immigrants who served at Sackets Harbor, even if only briefly. Recently, members of the Onondaga Indian Nation who volunteered with U.S. forces, such as Moses Abrams, were documented and added to the 40 already recorded Mahawk and Mississauga of the British-Canadian landing force. As the participants’ stories emerge from the historical record, these individuals will foster an inspiration for increased appreciation of the Sackets Harbor Battleground, a unique North Country treasure, and hopefully advance stewardship of the whole region’s cultural and natural heritage legacy.

Constance Barone is the site manager of Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site in New York.
UNDER A DEADLY SUN

What would it take to move Stonewall Jackson, who never shied away from a fight, to draw his sword in action for the first time? Hand-to-hand fighting at Cedar Mountain in weather so stifling it gave new meaning to the phrase “the heat of battle.”

by MICHAEL E. BLOCK
PHOTOGRAPHY by MATTHEW MINION
Hill’s “Light Division” marched to join Jackson a few days later, bringing his command up to 22,000 soldiers. Outnumbered nearly two to one, Jackson was tasked to protect Gordonsville and, if practicable, strike a blow against Pope.

While Pope's infantry assembled between Warrenston and Sperryville, he dispatched Brig. Gen. Samuel W. Crawford's infantry brigade, from Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Banks’ II Corps, to Culpeper, securing the town for Pope’s advance. Additionally, Pope had his cavalry active in Madison and Orange Counties, scouting and gathering intelligence, with varying degrees of success. Brig. Gen. George Bayard's cavalry brigade stymied every Confederate attempt to molest Pope’s activity, culminating in a small, but violent action in Orange Court House on August 2. Bayard’s troopers brought Pope accurate and actionable intelligence of Jackson’s activity. Brig. Gen. John Hatch’s brigade, on the other hand, was ineffective in two attempted raids. Pope transferred Hatch to the infantry and replaced him with Brig. Gen. John Buford, giving the Kentuckian his first field command of the year.

By August 7, Jackson was able to discern that Pope was moving south and, knowing he needed to strike soon, set his army in motion to attack Crawford’s exposed brigade in Culpeper before Pope could concentrate. Jackson, in his typical fashion, kept details of the march to himself. The order of march would be the divisions of Maj. Gen. Richard Ewell, camped west of town, then Hill’s division followed by Brig. Gen. Charles Winder’s division, both camped south of Orange Court House. After dispatching the orders, Jackson recognized that Ewell’s real march by a more direct route, bypassing the town, and so he ordered him to do so. Stonewall neglected to inform Hill, however. Before dawn, the Light Division was lined up, prepared to follow Ewell, when its commander realized that Winder’s men, not Ewell’s, were marching past.

At this point, Jackson rode up and found Hill’s men standing along the roadside. As related by James I. Robertson, biographer of both men, in his Stonewall Jackson, The Man, The Soldier, the Legend, “Spying Hill and giving him a dark look, Jackson demanded to know why Hill’s brigades were not moving. Hill snapped back as few words as his own retching anger would allow. Jackson galloped away in obvious fury. Jackson never forgave the commander of the Light Division.” August 8 was, without a doubt, the worst day of marching in Jackson’s storied history. That night, as recorded in the Official Records, he wrote to Lee, “I am not making much progress. The enemy’s cavalry yesterday and last night also threatened my train ... Hill, ... making only 2 miles yesterday. Ewell’s division, which is near this point (12 miles from Culpeper Court House) and in front, marched about 8 miles. Yesterday was oppressively hot; several men had sun-stroke. . . . I fear that the expedition will, in consequence of my tardy movements, be productive but of little good.”

With Bayard’s cavalry contesting the advance and a signal station on Thoroughfare Mountain, Jackson’s advance was tracked from the start. Pope ordered Banks’ II Corps forward to contest the advance. The advance would meet below Cedar Mountain. Banks’ 16-mile march to the battlefield began in the early hours of that fateful Saturday.

August 9 dawned warm, and it was clear the day would grow to be as hot as the previous few. Jackson was six miles short of Cedar Mountain. Banks’ 8,000-man command was along the Hazel River, north of Culpeper Court House. Between them, at Cedar Mountain, was Crawford’s four-regiment brigade, two batteries of artillery and Bayard’s cavalry screening Jackson. These men suffered throughout the morning and afternoon waiting in the heat. Frederick Duvall, chaplain and historian for the 1st Rhode Island Cavalry of Bayard’s brigade, made note of the heat in his memoir. “Unable to leave our position, our men suffered for the lack of water and regular rations. I recollect having filled my canteen with water from the rain and from wells, fifteen times during the day, taking in all twenty-one quarts, a part of which I gave to field and staff officers and to particular sufferers.”

By 1:00 p.m., Ewell’s lead brigade, under Brig. Gen. Jebel Early, advanced into the fields to contest Bayard’s men. Along the slope of Cedar Mountain, Ewell sent Trimble’s brigade and artillery under 19-year-old Capt. Joseph Latimer to control the heights and dominate the field. Protected by infantry, Latimer’s gunners would hold an artilleryman’s dream position, dominating nearly every
part of the field.
Early cleared out the Yankee horse soldiers then came under fire from Federal artillery on the eastern end of the field. As Early cleared the cavalry, the remainder of Banks’s corps arrived and moved into position.

Jackson’s force utilized a single road, which came under increasingly heavy artillery fire. Winder’s division was forced off the road into the trees by this fire as its men moved into position. Winder, while placing his men, was also working with artillery positioned near the Crittenden Gate. While assisting the gunners, Winder was mortally wounded by a shell, becoming the highest-ranking Confederate to die in Culpeper County during the war. The intense Federal artillery fire forced the Confederates to abandon the road and move through the woods.

Bank’s two divisions, under Brig. Gen. Christopher Augur and Alpheus Williams, formed on a ridge above Cedar Run. Pope’s intention was to fight a defensive battle, but verbal orders between Pope and Banks’s aides were miscommunicated, and Banks, observing Jackson advancing along the single road, found in his mind the opportunity to average the losses in the valley. At 5:00 p.m., with temperatures in the 90s, he ordered his men forward.

ALONG THE SLOPE OF CEDAR MOUNTAIN... LATIMER’S GUNNERS WOULD HOLD AN ARTILLERIST’S DREAM POSITION, DOMINATING NEARLY EVERY PART OF THE FIELD.

The attack was uncoordinated. Beginning on the Union left, Augur’s brigades of Brig. Gen. Harry Hoffer and John Geary stepped off into corn at different times. To their front, two brigades of infantry opened on Augur’s brigades, who also came under fire from Latimer’s guns on Cedar Mountain, while Geary also took flank fire from Brig. Gen. Richard Garnett’s Virginians posted along the fence.
lined road bordering the corn.

Between 15 and 30 minutes after Augur’s advance, William's division stepped off, with three of Crawford’s regiments surging from a tree-covered hill into a recently shockered wheat field. One regiment was held by Banks as his reserve. Crawford’s 5th Connecticut advanced toward a fence manned by Garnett’s men, while the 28th New York Infantry and 46th Pennsylvania advanced beyond the Confederate left flank and into woods behind the Rebel lines. Striking the Rebels in the flank and rear, the fighting became brutal and personal. The bayonet was freely used. The advancing Yankees forced portions of Garnett’s men into the open to retreat toward the Citzendden Lane. Garnett’s exposed brigade suffered 311 casualties.

At this point, Jackson, who was on the right of the line, was heard to say, “There is some hard work being done over there.” Jackson raced toward his collapsing left, leaping fences and losing his hat. As he neared the Citzedden Gate, over the artilleryist, he ordered the guns still in the battery to the rear.

Capt. Charles Blackford, Stonewall’s aide-de-camp, who was near the Citzedden Gate, marshell’s Hill’s arriving division, witnessed Jackson’s arrival at the critical juncture of the battle. Blackford recalled, “Jackson, with one or two of his staff, came dashing across the road from our right in great haste and excitement. As he got amongst the disordered troops he drew his sword [it was rusted in its scabbard, so Jackson undid it and raised both sword and scabbard], then reached over and took his bayonet, ... and dropping the reins, waved it over his head and, at the same time cried out in a loud voice, ‘Rally, men! Remember Windermere! Where’s my Stonewall Brigade? Forward, men, forward!'”

Others present recalled different phrasing, but all agree the effect was electric. The tide of battle was turned.

The arrival of A.P. Hill’s division couldn’t have been better timed. Brig. Gen. Edward L. Thomas’s Georgians were dispatched to anchor Jackson’s right. The next brigade up was Brig. Gen. Lawrence O’Bryan Branch’s North Carolinians. They had formed and were ready to advance when Jackson rallied the broken men. Branch moved through the stilling woods and swept up the ex-
SK EDUCATORS, and they’ll admit that it is not always easy to engage students in the classroom using traditional methods. Educating students demands skill, intuition and knowledge to create formative learning experiences that will impact students. Interactive, alluring lessons are not always commonplace in the American education system, but the American Battlefield Trust honors outstanding history educators each year in recognition of their unique talents and ability to capture students’ attention in the Civil War arena.

The Trust presents the Abbe-Carter Award and the Teacher of the Year Award to educators who can teach students about Civil War history in a way that creates a sense of pride and passion for teaching their students about historical events. The Abbe-Carter Award is presented to an educator who focuses on a special project with his or her students or goes far beyond expectations to further students’ educations, and the Teacher of the Year is awarded to the best history teacher. Spread across the country, the educators who receive the prestigious awards work countless hours to captivate their students.

For many of these educators, allowing history to remain accessible to their students involves planning field trips. BOB RINEHART, an eighth-grade American history teacher at Southpawton Middle School in Bel Air, Md., takes his students on a field trip to Gettysburg National Military Park. He said that he has planned and executed this trip 20 times at this point. Rinehart was honored as the Trust’s Teacher of the Year in 2004.

Rinehart inscribes several experiences in the day-long trip. Students enjoy walking tours led by Rinehart himself, the use of the Trust’s Gettysburg Battle App® guide, a visit to the Cyclorama, scavenger hunts and licensed battlefield tours. Rinehart said, “The support of the American Battlefield Trust has been tremendous,” citing the Trust’s Field Trip Fund as a valuable resource for him and his colleagues. The Field Trip Fund, designed to offset the cost of field trips related to the Civil War, the War of 1812 and the Revolutionary War, enables K–12 educators to help their students see the effects of crucial points in American history firsthand.

Lessons taught inside the classroom, however, are just as crucial as the ones taught outside of the classroom. SMIRLEY MELVIN, a second-grade teacher at Lyon Magnet Elementary School in Waukee, Ill., who holds a particular fervor for Abraham Lincoln, shared a story about bringing Civil War content to a bilingual classroom, in which students learned in Spanish and English.

“The first day we met, I introduced myself, explained my expectations, and let them check out my room — Lincoln hat, Lincoln bobbleheads, Lincoln house key, lithographs, photographs and replica Civil War bullets around my room,” Sylor recalled. “The next time we met, they came prepared with all sorts of information on Lincoln to see if I knew it. They did manage to find a new tidbit I didn’t know. The librarian came to tell me after our first class that [that] student wrote an essay about Lincoln and his role in the Civil War. I was so impressed by this essay that I ended up placing it in my classroom. The student was so proud of his work. It was a great day for both of us.”

THOUGH Snyder doesn’t know Spanish, she found a way to engage the students, ultimately fostering a sense of wonderment within those who worked with her. Snyder received the Teacher of the Year honor in 2017.

Dave Niekum, who teaches at Avella Junior/Senior High School in Avella, Pa., found great inspiration within students as he taught them about the high school’s collection of Civil War artifacts. The collection includes an array of Civil War weapons, which he said the students find particularly fascinating.

Niekum said that upon receiving the Abbe-Carter Award in 2018, he was labeled a member of the Trust’s family. He said he was touched by that affirmation and that he felt strongly about the power of the Trust as more than just a professional organization.

“I look at the Trust as more than just a resource,” said Niekum. “The people at the Trust become family. I’ve gotten to know so many wonderful people because of the Trust.”

“I think kids need to recognize that democracy and republican forms of government are something that everybody is a stakeholder in,” Percoco said. “I think kids need to understand the stakeholder concept and also understand why dialogue and discussion is really necessary for democracy to not just survive but thrive.”

For that reason, Percoco said that he uses current examples of democratic dilemmas surrounding the effect on modern times. He also incorporates technology into his classroom. Specifically, he said he enjoys using the Trust’s “Let’s Explore” video series, which are short, four-minute clips that target certain aspects of war: Percoco has even narrated some of the videos himself. Though educators have ever-faster access to history, the task of teaching history does not come without challenges.

JAMES A. PERCOCO, a middle and high school teacher at Leavall School for the Gifted in Ashburn, Va., said that teaching students about the history and formation of the United States is imperative to their understanding of the function of the country now. Percoco received the Trust’s Teacher of the Year award in 2012. He left the traditional education system to work as the Trust’s Teacher in Residence for several years before returning to the classroom.

The 2019 Teacher of the Year will be announced on July 13 during the Annual Teacher Institute in Raleigh, N.C. 1812 and the Revolutionary War, can taint educators’ ability to teach and engage their students. Though the job can prove difficult, TYLER MADISON, an eighth-grade teacher at Walnut Middle School in Grand Island, Neb, explained why the job is an imperative part of society and gave this advice to new and future educators: “We get the opportunity to actually impact lives and society, every day. Learn to connect with students and share your excitement about your subject. If you can do those things you will impact your students’ lives long after they leave your classroom.”

Madison was selected as the Teacher of the Year in 2016.

PHIL CASKEY, who teaches at University High School in Morgantown, W. Va., explained that the Trust has helped him develop personally and professionally. Caskey was named the Trust’s Teacher of the Year in 2016 and said, “It’s been one of the greatest honors of my life, to be honest. I try to live up to it daily.”

Caskey said more students are taking his Civil War class because of the notoriety that has come along with the award.

DAVID WEIGEL, a middle school teacher at Waukesha Lutheran Grade School in Campbellsport, Wisc., praised the Trust for its commitment to educators’ success, as well as students’ success. Weigle was chosen as the winner of the Abbe-Carter Award in 2011.

“The annual Teacher Institute is a highlight of my summer. We learn great content, experience museums and battlefields with enthusiastic fellow participants and create a network of friends and colleagues that is unsurpassed in anything I have ever done,” Weigle said. “The Trust brings together strangers who have become not only friends, but also professional resources for one another.”
Read and her family

**SPRINGTIME GENERATIONS EVENTS**

**CHARGE AND COUNTERCHARGE at Cedar Mountain**

HE 70-PLUS people who gathered at the battlefield on March 31, 2019, for the Generations: Charge and Countercharge at Cedar Mountain event enjoyed much more temperate weather than their Civil War counterparts. But even the youngest participants walked away with a new appreciation for what period soldiers experienced when they marched into battle.

Wearing wool jackets and hats provided by the Trust, young people re-enacted the flow of the battle, with Union troops attacking, only to be repelled and charged in return. But instead of live ammunition, children were armed with lightweight plastic balls that were hurled to simulate the confusion and chaos of a battlefield.

Living historians representing the Valley Guards, a company of the 10th Virginia Infantry, were on hand to interpret what daily life was like for soldiers during the war. Children were even able to sample hardtack, a staple of the 19th-century military diet, before moving on to a more appetizing modern snack.

The Generations program is designed to help history lovers pass their passion on to the next generation by offering family-friendly events that can spark an interest in the past. Accompanied by their parents or grandparents, children from as far afield as Long Island, N.Y., were in attendance at Cedar Mountain.

Diane Logan, president of the Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield, summed up the importance of the Generations program when she welcomed the crowd to the event, saying, “All of you are the future for keeping the history of these battlefields alive.”

**PROFILES in PRESERVATION**

**RECOGNIZING INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT**

**PAIGE READ**

Town of Culpeper’s tourism and economic development director knows what sets the region apart

**IN A WAY, Paige Read is the Town of Culpeper’s biggest cheerleader. As the director of economic development and tourism, her job is to promote the things that make the community one of a kind — the places that can be found nowhere else.**

“If I were to personify Culpeper, the top traits that come to mind are humble, surprising and delicately refined,” Read says. “Culpeper is quintessential southern charm.”

She advises that Culpeper is well known as a foodie town, with award-winning chefs, but simultaneously has tremendous natural scenery and is a Mecca for equestrian sports. Not to mention its major Civil War battlefields. In total, it’s “a blend of life’s simplest pleasures all experienced in nature’s greatest gifts. The perfect escape for those seeking to create historic life experiences during an era filled with generic instant gratification.”

A native of Baltimore County, Md., Read moved to Virginia as an undergraduate studying strategic advertising at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). While there, she gained practical knowledge that she parlayed into a job with a Richmond ad agency upon graduation. It’s also where she met her future husband Brandon, with whom she now raises two daughters.

Several of her initial clients were residential developers, and Read’s job was to market the aspects of their planned communities that would attract buyers. She later moved on to the Virginia Tourism Corporation, promoting the state’s assets.

“In the beginning, that’s what I thought tourism was — selling the best parts of a locality,” Read says. “It took a couple of years for me to truly learn the value of the tourism industry. At its core, tourism is economic development. As destination marketers, we inform, inspire and educate consumers with the goals of driving economic stability, job creation, community sustainability and quality of life through travel.”

Eight years and an MBA from VCU later, Read moved on from that position with the state, having found a personal niche at the intersection of traditional economic development and tourism, where product development and placemaking are tools used to secure large-scale investment and job creation, thereby expanding the tax base and increasing the standard of living within a community.

“Tours to why Read became such an early and vocal supporter of the proposal to create a new Virginia state park from the already preserved landscapes of the Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain Battlefields. “A new state park in Culpeper will deliver economic stimulation to the entire region. The combined direct and indirect spending by visitors will provide stabilization for our small business community and our local tax base — both of which set a foundation for community investment and job creation, resulting in a higher quality of life.”

Read believes that heritage tourism is particularly potent appealing to a large cross-section of today’s travelers.

“Across all generations, there is swell in demand for authenticity and self-discovery. People are seeking more and more opportunities to disconnect from technology, so they can connect with friends, families and loved ones,” she says. “When you stop to think about it, all travelers are heritage travelers, seeking to experience the places and activities that represent the stories and people of the past and present.”

So what else should a traveler who has come to Culpeper for its battlefields be sure to do while in the region? Read recommends the boutiques and restaurants on Davis Street or catching a movie screening at the Library of Congress Packard Campus. She also notes there are 30 breweries, wineries and distilleries that dot the nearby countryside, including Belmont Farms, the first craft distiller in America.

“There is nothing better than sharing the stories of our local entrepreneurs, chefs, creators and doers, and then watching those stories inspire people to visit, connect and experience all that Culpeper has to offer firsthand.”

**PICKETT’S CHARGE at Gettysburg**

IN APRIL 27, 115 people participated in the Trust’s “Pickett’s Charge” Generations event at Gettysburg. Despite the windy weather, young people enjoyed learning about soldier life during the Civil War, retracing the steps of the Confederates assault against Cemetery Ridge and even engaging in an age-appropriate simulation.


**PHOTOS BY BUDDY SCCOR**

**PHOTOS BY NOEL KLINE**

Cedar Mountain Battlefield
Culpeper County, Va.
MATTHEW HIRSAN
**Full event details, lodging information and registration forms will be available online this summer.**

www.battlefields.org/annualconference
FEW READERS of Hallowed Ground realize that all submissions to the magazine by photographers and artists are made as donations. If you’re interested in donating your time and talent for the American Battlefield Trust by taking high-resolution photography for Hallowed Ground, please send an email with a web link or samples of your work to Creative Director Jeff Griffith at HallowedGroundPhotography@gmail.com. (Please note that images taken at web resolution settings on your camera or mobile phones are not of suitably high resolution to reproduce in print media.)

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