



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Paul Whipple, Jr., CPA
Chairman

Richard J. Seitz
1st Vice Chair

J. Randall Grespín
2nd Vice Chair

Burt Snyder
Treasurer

J. Robert Hanlon, Esq.
Secretary

Gene Barr
Immediate Past Chair

Steven Butz

Thomas (Chip) Brown, Jr.

Mary DeCredico, Ph.D.

Thomas Dilworth

Darrell Diodato

Jeffrey Gelburd

Peter J. Keim, MD

Kenneth W. Lee

Kelly Lewis, Esq.

J. Michael Love

Jeff Myers

James J. Nulton

Robert Philbin

Frank Pinto

Kenneth Sable, Esq.

2013 Platinum
Sponsor



Our mission is to serve as a national center to inspire lifelong learning of the American Civil War through the preservation and balanced presentation of the American peoples struggles for survival and healing.

SUMMER 2013

Member Spotlight: Octavio Martinez, Ph.D.

One may find it unusual to identify someone with an interest in the Civil War given his name and residence in the farthest corner of a state known at one time as the “Tadpole of the Confederacy.” However, Octavio Martinez’s case may be somewhat different.

Martinez was born in Jacksonville, Florida which happens to be near the site of the battle of Olustee, the largest military engagement of the Civil War in Florida. Raised in Havana, he moved to Miami in the early 1960s where he still resides. Although he always had an interest in history, his choice of profession would seem to not have brought him any closer to the history of the Civil War in particular; Martinez is a medical microbiologist and teacher working at the University of Miami Tissue Bank and the Miller School of Medicine. Throughout his career in Florida, he has come across a number of faculty members and colleagues, both from the North and South, who had an interest in the various social and military aspects of the Civil War.



Later, while serving in the U.S. Army Reserve, his service assignments put him in geographical proximity to a number of Civil War battlefields, sites and museums. Like most people, Martinez’s interest in Civil War history began with the military events that took place in the parks and battlefields now maintained by the States and other organizations.

For some time now, Martinez has been a supporter of the Civil War Trust. But after visiting the NCWM and other smaller museums/institutions, he came to appreciate that the real impact of the conflict was not on the acreage it affected, but on the people

who lived through it and their descendants.

“The Civil War touched the lives of all Americans. It changed both the fiber and the future of the nation. The preserved personal items, letters and diaries, the accounts of average soldiers--some, newly minted Americans on both sides of the lines who hardly spoke the national language yet shared a dedication to what they saw as a cause--add a powerful dimension to the well manicured fields and restored artillery pieces that one casually looks at while touring the parks. A few years ago while on an incidental side trip after walking the fields in Gettysburg National Battlefield Park I found myself in Harrisburg, PA and decided to visit the relatively new NCWM where I found the reality of the human element of the Civil War conflict on display. I may have left a brick with my name there but I took with me the indelible memories of that visit over the years.”

Octavio Martinez has been a loyal member since 2001.

WHERE
in the
World is
Wayne Motts?



Saturday, July 27

Pride of the Susquehanna Riverboat Cruise, Harrisburg
“Gettysburg and South Central PA: The Turning Point Where Today’s America Began”

Tuesday, August 6

Robert E. Lee CWRT, Avenel, NJ
“Fighting the Civil War: Historical Treasures of the Conflict in the Collection of the National Civil War Museum”

Tuesday, September 3

CWRT of Eastern PA, Allentown, PA
Same topic as above

2013 Gold Sponsor



New Member Cards

Remember to get your new member card scanned each time you visit. This is a great new function in order for us to determine how often members take advantage of one of their many membership benefits!

NCWM’s First CEO Remembered



I’d like to start this column by recognizing one of my predecessors, George E. Hicks. George was the museum’s first CEO and did so much for the institution during the early stages of its development. Sadly, we recently learned George passed away at his home in North Carolina. Of course, all of us here at The National Civil War Museum pass our thoughts and prayers on to his wife and family. I

can think of no better way to honor George’s memory than to continue and enhance all the good work we do here at the Museum. I believe George would have been proud of all the grand happenings just a few short weeks ago.

The Gettysburg Commemoration period (June 28, 2013—July 7, 2013) saw a huge spike in activity at the museum. During this busy period, visitation to the NCWM was double over last year. As part of the celebration in connection with our county’s 150th Commemoration, the

acclaimed movie *Lincoln* was shown on the back lawn to a large crowd. Visitors from around the world enjoyed our two changing exhibitions and other offerings. I doubt the staff and volunteers could have been any busier. While things have returned to a less hectic pace we expect the 150th Commemoration of the Gettysburg Address in November will also bring to the museum many visitors. We look forward to the continuing interest in Civil War history. Stay tune for the museum’s fall lecture series and other great news!

Welcome New Members!

Jean Florio, Mansfield, MA

Brian Jackson, Toluca Lake, CA

Clifford Norman, Georgetown, TX

Frederick Heagy, Middletown, PA

Kevin McKenna, Boiling Springs, PA

Ron Perisho, San Ramon, CA

Richard J. Sawhill, Fontana, CA

David & Sheila Fleischer, Harrisburg, PA

David Gibson, Baltimore, MD

Michael & Carrie Moyer, York, PA

Patrick & Patricia Zartman, York, PA

Jim Carothers, Timonium, MD

Stephen Kindler, Mechanicsburg, PA

James Wonyen, Harrisburg, PA

Deborah and Walter Boyson, Exeter, PA

Ray Feith, Hummelstown, PA

Lance Ingmire, Stillwater, NY

Stephen Keller, Bolingbrook, IL

Nancy Welch, Hummelstown, PA

Joseph Fafara, Philadelphia, PA

Melonie Koski, New Cumberland, PA

Catherine Ritch, Matthews, NC

Patrick KIELTY, Harrisburg, PA

Chickamauga & General George Thomas

On September 30, 1863, General George Henry Thomas filed his report on the Battle of Chickamauga that had ended nearly ten days earlier. That report, which runs to 20 pages covering 20 days—including 8 pages on the two heavy days of fighting, September 19th and 20th—reads at first glance like all battle reports: I moved X there, then Y there; this happened here, and that there. Nothing seems out of the ordinary...unless you know something about General Thomas' character.

My wife Scannell Gill & I published a novel—*A Civil General* (2008)—that attempted to get inside his character & especially into the attitude of his soldiers & the public toward him. Previous biographies had been essentially confined to his military strategy in the War, not only because so little was known about his life before he went to West Point, but because he had his wife destroy all his personal papers on his death five years after the War.

Nevertheless, some things were clear to us about George Henry Thomas' character, based primarily upon the accounts of my great grandfather and other soldiers who fought under him. Moreover, the public perception of Thomas, a Southerner who fought for the North, was clear after his death: the train that brought his body from Oakland, California to Troy, New York, was witnessed by hundreds of thousands of American families who lined the tracks in grief & built arches of flowers for the train to pass through, marked with the names of the battles in which he distinguished himself. 10,000 of those citizens then crowded into Troy for his funeral & burial in Oakwood Cemetery, including President Grant and his cabinet. Thomas was a beloved figure in his own time, a fact that historians have neglected sufficiently to explain. Here is a passage from the minister's eulogy at the funeral, which connects in a telling way with Thomas' battle report after Chickamauga:

As a gentleman, he was irreproachable, both in contact with his men and with the world, and none ever loved him more dearly this lion-heart with the affection of a woman, than his own soldiers who served under him and knew the warm feelings under the stern exterior... Silent, sedate, never familiar, though always kind, he had none of the petty arts and practiced none of the stage devices that sometimes attract a short-lived popularity.

The modesty & self-effacement of Thomas, which the minister repeatedly emphasizes, has been his most elusive quality for historians. They understand him as a great strategist & deliberate preparer for battle, & they are coming to appreciate at long last how decisive he was in battle, but they have a hard time explaining the modesty of this imposing, tough leader. Thomas' battle report on Chickamauga helps.

“Chickamauga was an overall victory for the Confederacy, but it would have been a complete rout if not for Thomas.”

Thomas is most famous, of course, for the stand he engineered on Snodgrass Hill on the 20th of October, 1863, when he organized disparate elements of his own & other regiments in resisting for an entire afternoon wave after wave of three times as many Confederate troops that had poured through Union lines following a critical mistake by Thomas' commanding general, William Rosecrans. In the end, the final attacks, as night was falling, were repulsed by bayonets not bullets. Chickamauga was an overall victory for the Confederacy, but it would have been a complete rout if not for Thomas. The Union forces retreated seven miles to Chatta-

nooga, regrouped, and, two months later, led by Thomas' division, drove the rebel army out of the city and south toward Atlanta.

What is most striking about Thomas' battle report is the sparse detail he devotes to what happened on Snodgrass Hill; only 15% of his narrative of the 19th & 20th & barely over a page! (Contrast that with the eight pages that Henry Cist provides in his early 1882 history of the Army of the Cumberland.) Here is Thomas' extremely brief treatment of the events that gave him his abiding nickname, The Rock of Chickamauga:

I rode forward to Colonel Harker's position, and told him that, although I was expecting Sheridan from that direction, if those troops fired on him, seeing his flag, he must return their fire and resist their farther advance. He immediately ordered his skirmishers to commence firing, and took up a position with his brigade on the crest of a hill a short distance to his right and rear, placing his right in connection with Brannan's division and portions of Beatty's and Stanley's brigades of Negley's division, which had been retired to that point from the left, as circumstantially narrated in the reports of General John Beatty and Colonel Stanley. I then rode to the crest of the hill referred to above. On my way I met General Wood, who confirmed me in the opinion that the troops advancing upon us were the enemy, although we were not then aware of the disaster to the right and center of our army. I then directed him to place his division on the prolongation of Brannan's, who, I had ascertained from Wood, was on the top of the hill above referred to, and to resist the farther advance of the enemy as long as possible. I sent my aide, Captain Kellogg, to notify General Reynolds that our right had been turned, and that the enemy was in his rear in force. General Wood barely had time to dispose his troops on the left of Brannan before another of those fierce assaults, similar to those made in the morning on my lines, was made on him and Brannan combined, and kept up by the enemy throwing

Staff Contacts

CEO: Wayne Motts
 Curator: Brett Kelley
 Director of Facilities & Security: Dave Reisch
 Director of Sales & Marketing: Trini Nye
 Director of Development & Membership: Lynn Smolizer
 Asst. Director of Sales & Marketing: Kate Dermott
 Museum Educator: Bryan Guerrisi



"As if the vast numbers of soldiers, civilians, horses, artillery, flag bearers and bands wasn't impressive enough, being more aware of my ancestry at the Gettysburg 150th than ever before brought one new thought to mind.

We, the descendants of those who sacrificed so much for their concept of freedom, really do have a very rewarding responsibility to preserve and perpetuate the memory of that great generation."

-Robert Gilbert, member/living historian

Bob is pictured above sending signals during Pickett's Charge, Day 3. He is also pictured in the group photo (right), third from the left.

NCWM Receives Large Letter Collection



On July 5, Ms. Valentine C. Chadwick of Seattle, Washington hopped on a plane to the East Coast on her way to visit family in New York. Lucky for us, she stopped by the museum to donate an impressive collection of **735 documents and letters** that belonged to her great, great grandfather, Captain Peter B.

Crandall, who was the Assistant Provost Marshall of the 21st Congressional District of New York from January to June of 1865.

The letters and documents were saved by Captain Crandall as evidence of his innocence as a subordinate of his Commanding Officer, Major John A. Haddock. In command of the Western Recruiting District of New York, Maj. Haddock was accused of fraud and accepting bribes in his dealings

with bounty brokers. Many of the letters and documents are signed by several famous persons, such as Roscoe Conklin, a famous New York Senator, Quartermaster General Rufus Ingalls and Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton. The collection provides a rare insight into the personal and political interaction between officers in the Union Army. We are very thankful that Ms. Chadwick has chosen The National Civil War Museum as a permanent home for this wonderful collection!

Reflections on Gettysburg

The 150th Battle of Gettysburg Commemoration brought in fantastic attendance for the Museum during the 9-day period, averaging 300 people each day, with as many as 500 visitors on one day (normal attendance averages 150-200). Here are some observations from those who participated in the week's events:

"It was a privilege to assemble in the fields of Gettysburg and reenact those violent but virtuous days that transformed our nation. Besides renewing old acquaintances, meeting & making new friends, it was a time to gather with old friends & make new

memories.

Equally memorable was the weekend before when I had the opportunity & privilege to encamp on the sacred ground of the Gettysburg/Lutheran Seminary. During our skirmish, I was invited to stand & observe the unfolding battle from the cupola where General Buford stood 150 years ago watching his Union forces engage the advancing Confederate army!" - David Rogers, member, living historian

"After having participated as a reenactor at the 150th Gettysburg over 4 very hot days (double the usual reen-

actment), I have an even greater appreciation of the hardships and struggles the soldiers endured in just in their daily lives in camp. That doesn't even account for the fear and terror of the battles when the real bullets and shells filled the air. Nothing feels better than going home at the end and taking a nice shower and sleeping in a comfortable bed with air conditioning (did I mention it was hot). Yet these soldiers from both sides lived like this for the four years of the war."

- Dean Auchenbach, Thompson's Battery C, PA 1st Light Artillery



Thomas & Chickamauga *continued from page 3*

in fresh troops as fast as those in their front were driven back, until near nightfall. About the time that Wood took up his position, General Gordon Granger appeared on my left flank at the head of Steedman's division of his corps. I immediately dispatched a staff officer, Captain Johnson, Second Indiana Cavalry, of Negley's division, to him with orders to push forward and take position on Brannan's right, which order was complied with the greatest promptness and alacrity. Steedman, moving his division into position with almost as much precision as if on drill, and fighting his way to the crest of the hill on Brannan's right, moved forward his artillery and drove the enemy down the southern slope, inflicting on him a most terrible loss in killed and wounded. This opportune

arrival of fresh troops revived the flagging spirits of our men on the right, and inspired them with new ardor for the contest. Every assault of the enemy from that time until nightfall was repulsed in the most gallant style by the whole line.

That's it. Yet this is the moment in the war that led President Lincoln to assert that "it is doubtful whether [General Thomas'] heroism & skill exhibited last Sunday afternoon, has ever been surpassed in the world."

The paradox of George Henry Thomas that historians must continue to explore is that someone so confident in his own abilities, so sure about how to end the war quickly & successfully for the North through one-sided battles like Chattanooga two months

later, so beloved by his men & the public, could avoid publicity & personal glory so determinedly. In our novel, we have Grant accuse Thomas of false modesty—including turning down promotions in favor of less competent generals-- because it is certainly possible for Thomas to be seen that way (especially by men like Grant). And even though Lincoln never made the specific quote, above, public, one could argue in the case of Thomas' battle report that any praise the President did give him might have preempted Thomas' need to tout in detail his stand at Chickamauga.

But a more logical reading of his battle report, consistent with his personality, is that he simply wanted his troops' success in

Continued below

Thomas (continued)

battle to be evaluated objectively, without any apparent intrusion or manipulation by him. He was a Southerner after all, with some of the graciousness that that entailed. More importantly, he was distrusted by his superiors in the Army (like Grant), and probably knew that he could not tout himself and his own accomplishments and then expect those same superiors to respect him, or his men, if he did so. His self-effacement can be seen as the ultimate respect and appreciation he felt for his men at their greatest moment in time. As we show in our book, those men, for him, were like the children he and his wife never had.

Dr. David Stinebeck is the Interim Associate Provost and Dean of Arts and Sciences at

Mansfield University in Pennsylvania and president of Concordant Consulting, LLC, a firm that helps non-profit organizations with management and governance issues. Also a novelist, his book (co-authored with his wife), A Civil General, displays a carefully researched effort to capture the character of General George Henry Thomas. Stinebeck has a collection of letters and diaries from his great-grandfather, who fought in the 82nd Indiana Infantry under Thomas and named his son after him.



photo courtesy of David Stinebeck

Don't miss his talk: Saturday, August 10 12:00pm

Please renew my membership to The National Civil War Museum.

I would like to become a new member of The National Civil War Museum.

Please check one:

- Student \$25
- Educator \$35
- Military \$35
- Senior \$35
- Individual \$50*
- Two-Adult \$85*
- Major \$100
- Brig. Gen. \$500

Not a member? Become one today!
Members, renew here.

- Colonel \$250
- President \$1,000

**Includes all dependent children living in the same household*

Name: _____

For new members only, unless there is an address change:

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Method of payment:

Check enc. payable to The Nat'l Civil War Museum

Please charge my credit card: AMEX MC/Visa Discover

Card number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The National Civil War Museum

1 Lincoln Circle at Reservoir Park
Harrisburg, PA 17103

866.BLU.GRAY

717.260.1861

www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org



Install & use this
tool bar & the
Museum receives
money for each
search!



Upcoming Events/Exhibits

Save the Date!

Thursday, October 3, 2013

Blue & Gray Gala

New format featuring a Food and Beverage Journey through the States!
\$75 per person

Presented by:



July 26, 1pm

Journey to the Centre of the Museum: special behind-the-scenes member only tour with curator Brett Kelley; RSVP to Lynn: 260.1861

July 27—28

Living History Encampment*: Palmetto Guard, 2nd South Carolina

August 3—4

Living History Encampment*: 4th North Carolina, Co. B



August 5-7

Civil War Adventure Camp

Calling all able bodied students going into 4th, 5th or 6th grade in the fall! This three day interactive camp will include Victorian dancing, lessons in making hard

tack or other period food, living historians and much more. Register by July 26.

Supported by:



August 10-11

Living History Encampment*: 42nd Mississippi, Company I

August 10, 12pm

“The Character of General George Henry Thomas: The Most Prominent Southerner to Fight for the North” presentation with author Dr. David Stinebeck;

2pm — **Songs and Stories of an Irish Soldier** with Mike Plunkett

September 7-8

Living History Encampment*: 1st Maryland Battalion, CSA

September 14–15

Living History Encampment: Confederation of Union Generals Meet & Greet

September 21-22

Living History Encampment: Blue & Gray Hospital Associa-

tion — field hospital encampment

September 28-29

Living History Encampment*: 7th Tennessee, Company A

Civil War 150th Fall Lecture Series (all lectures are at 1pm)

September 7

The Irish Brigade at Gettysburg with John Fitzpatrick

Platinum sponsor:



September 14

Securing the Union’s Right Flank at the Battle of Honey Springs with Terry Beckenbaugh

September 21

Confederate Battle Flags with Greg Biggs

Silver sponsor:



September 28

Preserving the USS Monitor with David Kropp

Bronze sponsors:



Please visit our website for more info and updates to this schedule:
www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org.

