September the eleventh has been burned into our minds. But another September the eleventh, this one in 1862, had cataclysmic implications for the United States of America as well. In 1862, these united states had been ripped apart by a civil war then entering its 18th month. Until now, few have understood how close this breach was to becoming a permanent fixture on the map of history.

It was the nation’s, and Mr. Lincoln’s, most trying month, as Gen. Robert E. Lee marched toward Union soil, panicking entire cities, destroying fragile political alliances and causing all of the North to rethink the fight and question whether it was best to redouble its war efforts or give up and let the South pursue its own course. For three weeks in September, the air was electric, nerves were at the breaking point and the whole of the North held its breath.

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**Denis E. Frye** is Chief Historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in Harpers Ferry, WV. Writer, lecturer, guide and preservationist, Dennis is a preeminent Civil War historian, having made numerous appearances on PBS, The History Channel, The Discovery Channel, and A&E. He has helped produce award-winning television features on the Battle of Antietam and abolitionist John Brown.

Dennis is also one of the nation’s leading Civil War battlefield preservationists. He is co-founder and first president of the Save Historic Antietam Foundation, and he is co-founder and a former president of today’s Civil War Trust, where he helped save battlefields in 12 states.

Dennis is a tour guide in demand, leading tours for organizations such as the Smithsonian, National Geographic, numerous colleges and universities, and Civil War Round Table. Dennis also is a well-known author, with 88 articles and eight books to his credit.

Dennis resides near the Antietam Battlefield in Maryland, where he and his wife Sylvia have restored the home that was used by Gen. Ambrose Burnside as his post-Antietam headquarters.

**SPECIAL BOOK DEAL AT MAY MEETING**

Dennis Frye will be offering a special collector’s edition of September Suspense, PLUS A FREE copy of his book, Antietam Revealed. Cost for members at the May 23 meeting will be $25.00 – a savings of $22 off retail. This special collector’s edition is only available through Dennis’ personal appearances.
May – Battle of Chancellorsville
On April 27, Union General Hooker crossed the Rappahannock River to attack General Lee’s forces. Lee split his army, attacking a surprised Union army in three places and almost completely defeating them. Hooker withdrew across the Rappahannock River, giving the South a victory, but it was the Confederates’ most costly victory in terms of casualties.

May 2 – Stonewall Jackson is shot
General Stonewall Jackson is shot 3 times in a friendly fire incident.

May 10 – Stonewall Jackson is shot
Stonewall Jackson dies of pneumonia following amputation of his arm at Chancellorsville.

May 30
Robert E. Lee completes the restructuring of the Army of Northern Virginia, creating three corps under James Longstreet, Dick Ewell and A. P. Hill.

May – The Vicksburg Campaign
Union General Grant won several victories around Vicksburg, Mississippi, the fortified city considered essential to the Union’s plans to regain control of the Mississippi River. On May 22, Grant began a siege of the city. After six weeks, Confederate Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton surrendered, giving up the city and 30,000 men. The capture of Port Hudson, Louisiana, shortly thereafter placed the entire Mississippi River in Union hands. The Confederacy was split in two.

May 16 – Battle of Champion Hill
Gen. Pemberton agrees to attack the Federal line with Johnston. The focal point of the attack, Champion Hill, will change hands three times, but the Confederate forces fail to meet. Pemberton withdraws to Vicksburg.

June 9 – Battle of Brandy Station
The largest predominantly cavalry engagement of the American Civil War, as well as the largest to take place ever on American soil. It was fought at the beginning of the Gettysburg Campaign by the Union cavalry under Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton against Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart’s Confederate cavalry on June 9, 1863.

June – Gettysburg Campaign underway
Confederate General Lee decided to take the war to the enemy. On June 13, he defeated Union forces at Winchester, Virginia, and continued north to Pennsylvania. General Hooker, who had been planning to attack Richmond, was instead forced to follow Lee. Hooker, never comfortable with his commander, General Halleck, resigned on June 28, and General George Meade replaced him as commander of the Army of the Potomac.

150 years ago – 1863

THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR MUSEUM
in association with the Smithsonian Institution

Museum extends operation hours for 150th Civil War Commemorations
The National Civil War Museum announces extended hours beginning June 28, 2013 and ending September 1, 2013. The Museum will be open to the public:

9AM – 6PM ………Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday
9AM – 8PM ………………………………………………………. Wednesday
10AM – 5PM ………………………………………………………….. Sunday

Museum CEO, Wayne E. Motts, calls this “An extraordinary opportunity to continue our mission to inspire a passion for learning and continuing education as it relates to the Civil War.”

New exhibit opens in May
A new exhibit In the Service of our Nation: Conscription during the Civil War, opening on May 15, 2013 with a wine and cheese reception 5:30PM – 7:30PM. The new exhibit will examine the events and reasoning that led the Union and Confederate governments to pass conscription acts during the Civil War, exemptions attached to them, and the reaction of the people.

Dr. Robert Sandow will present PA Draft Resistance in our education gallery, main floor at 6:00pm, with a question & answer period to follow.

Admission to the reception is $10 per person with complimentary admission for Museum members. Reservations must be made by contacting Brian Guerriani at 717.260.1861 x. 1130 or bguerriani@nationalcivilwarmuseum.org by May 10, 2013.

2013 Spring/Summer Living History Schedule
Encampments include Confederate dismounted cavalry, Confederate & Union infantry units, loading and firing demonstrations and much more!

Living history schedule*
April 13-14 ……………….Palmetto Guard & Pennsylvania Bucktails
April 27-28 ………………………………Palmetto Guard
June 1-2 ………………………………Confederation of Union Generals
June 8-9 ………………………………..Federal Generals
June 15-16 ……………………..44th Georgia
June 22-23 ………………………………27th New Jersey
July 27-28 ………………………………Palmetto Guard
August 3-4 ………………………………4th North Carolina Cavalry
September 14-15 ……………………Confederation of Union Generals
September 28-29 …………………………7th Tennessee Co. A

Museum visitors will see the flash and smell the smoke of Civil War muskets and rifles. Visitors are encouraged to visit the camps and ask living historians questions about their attire, food rations and daily life. Most infantry groups perform loading and firing demonstrations each day. Saturday demonstrations are at 11AM, 1PM & 3PM and Sunday demonstrations are at 1PM & 3PM.

*Programs are weather contingent. Visitors should check the Museum’s website for more information and updates to this schedule, as they are subject to change.

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Zephaniah Herbert Tavern

This is an ongoing series of articles, contributed by past roundtable president, John Winkelman, on the inns, hotels, taverns, and stores that were in Gettysburg and the surrounding communities during the battle.

On December 18, 1800 William Miller will sell one of his properties in Fairfield to John McGinley for 350 pounds. Based on the amount that was paid it appears that there was a building on this site already. McGinley was a storekeeper and he will use this building as his store. After his death McGinley’s heirs will sell the building and an ad in the Centinel on December 6, 1811 would read

“A large convenient dwelling house (which was long occupied as a tavern), a storehouse, stabling and sheds; a good well of water near the kitchen”. As McGinley was a storekeeper when was it used as a tavern? Possibly William Miller who had a tavern license from 1795 to 1797 used this location for his tavern before selling it.

In May 1812 Zephaniah Herbert will purchase the property and he will open a tavern here in 1813. He would be followed by James McKesson, John McKesson, James Paxton, Thomas Miller, and James Reed but after 1835 it appears that the building will no longer be used as a tavern and is now being used as a residence.

At the time of the Civil War the house was the residence of Sarah Blythe and her house would become a field hospital after the cavalry fight in Fairfield. On July 3, 1863 Major Samuel Starr commanding the 6th US Cavalry will ride into Fairfield. He had received reports of a Confederate wagon train in the area and he was hoping to capture it. Just north of town Starr would find the wagons he was seeking but he also found the Virginia Cavalry Brigade of General Grumble Jones. After some initial success the outnumbered Union cavalry will be routed taking many casualties including Major Starr. The wounded major will be brought to the Blythe house on Main Street along with other wounded. Starr had taken a saber blow to the head and a pistol ball in his right arm. Unfortunately the surgeon could not save the arm, so it was amputated and buried in Sarah Blythe’s garden.

Major Starr survived the amputation and was exchanged in September 1863 but he had problems. According to local resident and historian Frank Moore there was a story that the arm that was left behind in the Blythe garden when Starr was removed from Fairfield later caused the major trouble. Starr said that the arm he had lost was hurting and he and some companions came back to Fairfield to look for the arm. He claimed they found it buried in a cramped position, reburied it, and as far as is known the major never had any trouble with that arm again. (Gettysburg Times article August 23, 1957)

Today the old tavern is still standing on Main Street in Fairfield as a private residence with a bronze memorial plaque, dedicated in 1965, which tells about Major Starr’s wounding and the events that occurred there 150 years ago.
In a dark on May 2, 1863, having completed his successful attack on the Union right flank near Chancellorsville, Confederate General Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson, rode beyond his lines to personally review the Union position. Mistaken identity, coupled with the confusion, ended with a volley of “friendly fire” as Confederate bullets sliced through the woods around him.

Three balls hit Jackson, two of which shattered his left arm. He was taken to a field hospital at Wilderness Tavern, five miles to the rear, where doctors amputated his damaged limb the following morning. Eventually, Jackson was transported more than 26 miles to Guinea Station, where it was hoped he would board a train for Richmond. He never made it. Pneumonia set in, and on May 10, 1863, the general died in a small plantation outbuilding along the side of the tracks. His remains were taken to Lexington, Va., where he is buried.

In a small family cemetery on the Ellwood plantation, located on the eastern edge of Orange County, Va., stands a simple granite marker. It is the only marker in the cemetery. Carved into the stone is “Arm of Stonewall Jackson, May 3, 1863.”

Following Jackson’s amputation, a soldier of Jackson’s Second Corps, paid a visit to the hospital, where he discovered his General’s amputated limb. The soldier wrapped it in a blanket and rode the one mile to his brother’s home, Ellwood. There, he buried the severed limb in the family cemetery.

In later years another member of Jackson’s staff, Lieutenant James Power Smith, settled in Fredericksburg. In 1903 Smith placed several granite markers on the local battlefields to mark important locations. One of those markers is the one that now stands in Ellwood’s cemetery.

For some reason, Jackson’s arm was not reunited with the rest of his remains in Lexington. The site is maintained by Friends of Wilderness Battlefield and is open on weekends from May through late October. For more information check the park’s website at nps.gov/frsp/ellwood.htm.

Preservationists, enthusiasts, and students of the Civil War
submitted by Clifford Davids

This is a great Civil War Story – with a twist. Go to it directly at: www.ashevilleoralhistoryproject.wordpress.com/2013/04/10/242-aerial-view

This one takes a fascinating look at the treacherous political undercurrents running through the Northern states in the summer of 1864—just as the final and deciding battles of the Civil War were getting underway.

You can find The Re-Election of Abraham Lincoln: from Horace Greeley to the King of the Copperheads at: www.ashevilleoralhistoryproject.wordpress.com

As always, any comments are welcome.
### Stuff to do in the area

#### May 1-5. 150th Commemoration: Battle of Chancellorsville
Anniversary activities, tours and living history commemorating the 1863 battle near Fredericksburg. Updates: nps.gov/frsp.

#### May 4. Cigar and Whisky Night

#### May 4-5 Living history, music and more

#### May 9 Lecture, Gettysburg: Day Three
at the Carroll Community College, 1601 Washington Road, Westminster. 6:30-9:30 pm. $35. 410-386-8100.

#### June 6 Lecture, Sister Soldiers of the Civil War
at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, 401 Museum Drive in City Park, Hagerstown. 6-8 pm. $25 with dinner, $5 lecture only. For more information go to wcma.org.

#### June 8 Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital
Candlelight at Christ Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.

#### June 14 Walking tour, Star Fort and the Second Battle of Winchester
Rough Enough: Including Richard H. Clow’s Letters and Diary from the Civil and Indian Wars, 1865–1875
by Richard H. McBee, Jr. • reviewed by Jim Gallen

Rough Enough is based on the correspondence and diary of Civil War and Indian War veteran, Richard Clow as relay and expounded upon by his great-grandson, Author Richard McBee.

As the Civil War ground toward its conclusion, Clow enlisted for 100 days in the 22nd Massachusetts. That enlistment completed, Clow still in the Boston area, reenlisted, this time with the 56th Massachusetts. His letters home include the soldier’s view of the assault on Petersburg, and the Grand Review in Washington, where he met up with his brother, a member of the 4th Minnesota. The simple words of real-time emotions are found in his letter of April 29, 1865: “I am felling tiptop and am glad that the war is over. It was too bad about Mr. Lincoln and I was very sorry when I heard of it.” With the return of peace Richard tried to find a life on the farm but, after what he had seen, he was still too restless to settle down. Returning to his past experience, he reenlisted again, this time for the Indian Wars of Montana. Finally having had enough of military life, Clow found love, a job and a civilian life into which he fit. Gradually moving west he ended up in Oregon until his death in 1926.

This book, like many based on participant accounts, brings out details that would have been widely known at the time but not later. The fact that Union troops would be short of rations because of the ones given to surrendering Confederates, that demobilized troops were given the opportunity to buy their guns and that Indian fighters in Montana would freeze in uniforms made for combat in Virginia, Mississippi and Georgia are things that I would have never thought of. The explanation of the protection provided by Forts Ellis and Shaw to settlers in Montana is an education in the nature and purpose of the Indian Wars.

What I like the most about this book is the way author Richard McBee blended Clow’s writings with his own research. I am amazed at how well McBee unearthed the truths behind Clow’s references and the historical acts in which he played his roles. Often the combination of a veteran’s observations and a descendant’s writing leaves a lot to be desired. Such is not the case with Rough Enough. We could not have asked for more.

Paperback: 288 pages • Publisher: American Book Publishing (March 1, 2013) • Language: English • ISBN-10: 1589827139 • ISBN-13: 978-1589827134 • Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 5.2 x 0.9 inches • Shipping Weight: 8 ounces • Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars • Amazon price: Kindle Edition $9.85 / Paperback $22.00