

THE PAMPLIN TELEGRAM



FIELD DISPATCHES

Community Engagement



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Pamplin Historical Park
& The National Museum
of the Civil War Soldier

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Questions? Comments? Contributions
to the newsletter? We'd love to hear
from you! Please email us at:
memberservices@pamplinpark.org



LETTER FROM THE FRONT

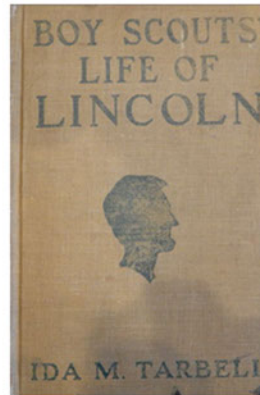
Update from Pamplin Historical Park

Over the years I have accumulated quite an extensive library of Civil War books, a fact which I sometimes regret as I have packed them up and moved them several times in my career. Among the volumes there is one book which has a special place on my shelves and in my heart. It is the first real book I ever owned, given to me by my mother when I was five years old. *Boy Scouts' Life of Lincoln* by Ida M. Tarbell was written in 1921. My copy was published by The MacMillan Company of New York in 1930. It runs 247 pages with 12 illustrations, my favorite was the one featuring the President with his son Tad.



My mother would read sections of the book to me at bedtime. One passage particularly affected me. Tarbell wrote that when Abraham turned five years old, he began helping with the chores on the family farm in Kentucky. When his father began planting corn in the “big field,” Abraham’s task was to drop two pumpkin seeds into every other hill or every other row. A few days later a big rain came and washed all of the corn and pumpkins seeds away. This must have been very discouraging for Abraham. As I had often helped my father plant vegetables in the small family garden in northern Maine I immediately felt a kinship with “Abe.” I have kept the book with me ever since.

It was only later in high school that I learned how important Ida M. Tarbell was as an historian and journalist. Born in a log cabin (just like Lincoln) in Erie County, Pennsylvania, Tarbell was seven years old when President Lincoln was assassinated in 1865. In 1876, after graduating as the only woman in a class of 41 from Allegany College she took a job as a teacher in Ohio. However, she soon discovered that she enjoyed writing more than teaching eventually moving to Paris, France before returning to the United States to write articles for McClure’s, a highly popular illustrated monthly magazine. There she researched and wrote a 20 part series on the life of Abraham Lincoln which cemented her reputation as a leading female historian and doubled the magazine’s circulation.



But as impressive as this was, it is not the reason that Ida M. Tarbell is remembered today. In 1900 she began researching the Standard Oil Company and the predatory business practices of its founder, John D. Rockefeller. By using documents—hundreds of thousands of pages scattered throughout the nation—and then amplified her findings through interviews with the corporation’s executives and competitors, government regulators, and academic experts past and present. In other words, she practiced what today is considered investigative reporting, which did not exist in 1900. Indeed, she invented a new form of journalism – which at the time was called “muckraking” (a term that Tarbell did not particularly like).

Her 1904 book, *The History of the Standard Oil Company* (which was listed as No. 5 in a 1999 list by New York University of the top 100 works of 20th-century American journalism), caused a scandal which eventually led to the breaking up of the Standard Oil monopoly in 1911. Before she died in 1944, she published a total of seven books about Abraham Lincoln, most of them about his early life in Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois. I have collected a few of them but none in my opinion as good as the book my mother gave me when I was five years old.



*Jerry Desmond
Executive Director*

ATTENTION TO ORDERS!

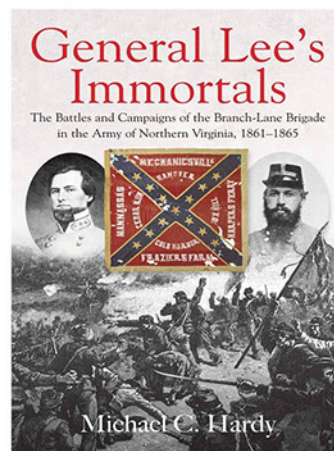
Pamplin Historical Park News & Events

Breakthrough Anniversary Week Commemorates April 2, 1865 Battle

Many years after the Civil War, Union General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain commented that, "In great deeds, something abides. On great fields something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear, but spirits linger, to consecrate the ground for the vision-place of souls. And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know not of, heart-drawn to see where and by whom great things were suffered and done for them, shall come to this deathless field to ponder and dream. . . ." To honor the "great field" that Pamplin Historical Park and the National Museum of the Civil War Solder now occupies, and to commemorate the 153rd anniversary of the Breakthrough, the Park hosted a number of special programs the week of April 2-8, 2018.

On the misty morning of April 2, 2018, Gary Helm, the Park's Interpretive and Visitor Services Supervisor, led a hearty group of guests in a two-hour walking tour on the hallowed ground of the Breakthrough Battle. The tour contextualized the engagement by explaining the strategy of the Overland and Petersburg Campaigns, and highlighted the tactics of the attacking VI Corps at the Breakthrough. However, the tour participants also heard several individual soldiers' stories, both North and South, who fought on that same ground, in one sense so long ago, but in another sense, not so long ago.

Since the previous weekend was Easter weekend, the Park chose to provide special event programming on April 7-8. Although the weather did not cooperate on Saturday, with a chilling wet rain that turned to snow overnight, the schedule featured engaging demonstrations by Park staff and guest living historians who shared their insights and talents about Civil War sharpshooters and infantry drill. A lively reenacted engagement at the Park's fortification's exhibit gave guests a small glimpse of what earthwork combat might have looked like. Guest historian and author Michael C. Hardy spoke mid-day about his recently published book on the Branch-Lane Brigade of the Army of Northern Virginia. In addition, Amanda Powell led a lively discussion and demonstration about ladies' apparel of the Civil War-era. A rousing performance from the Haversacks and Hardtack String Band culminated Saturday's full day of programming



While a few of Saturday's programs were available again on April 8, Sunday's highlight was a small-scale reenactment of the Battle of Jones Farm, fought originally on March 25, 1865, on land adjacent to the Park. Sunday ended with a reminder of the consequences of war when Helm performed an engaging demonstration about Civil War-era surgery.

Plans are currently in the works for the 2019 Breakthrough weekend, so mark your calendar and be sure to come learn with us for the 154th anniversary.



*Tim Talbott
Associate Director of Education,
Interpretation, Visitor Services
& Collections*

TOP RAIL

Park Programs & Exhibits

Pamplin Historical Park's Twenty-Second Annual Civil War Symposium: October 19-21, 2018

Top Rail – Civil War Symposium

Over the past 21 years over 120 different speakers have made a presentation at the Civil War Symposium at Pamplin Historical Park . . . only 5 of them have been female. So, I am very excited about this year's panel, for the first time all of the speakers are prominent female Civil War historians. The topics they will be presenting cover a wide range – from biography to tactics, from campaigns to the effects of the environment on battlefields, from gender to post war studies. The final day of the Symposium features what should be an interesting panel discussion. Once again the entire conference will be covered live on C-Span 3.

These seven historians are at the top of their profession. Among them are two Lincoln Prize honorable mentions for the best Civil War book, two Wiley-Silver Prizes for the best first Civil War book, a Bachelder-Coddington award for the best new book about Gettysburg and an E-Lincoln Prize for the first best on-line work about the war.

The Symposium still has limited space, reservations are required, so get your registration in soon by calling the toll-free number listed below.

First Ladies of Civil War History

Pamplin Historical Park's First All-Female Civil War Panel

Speakers and Topics

Dr. Anne Sarah Rubin, University of Maryland,
"Through the Heart of Dixie: Sherman's March
and America"

Dr. Jennifer Murray, Oklahoma State University,
"And so the Murderous Work Went On: Tactics of
the Civil War"

Dr. Lesley J. Gordon, University of Alabama,
"General George Pickett in Life and Legend"

Dr. Margaret Creighton, Bates College, [The Colors
of Courage: Gettysburg's Forgotten History:
Immigrants, Women and African-Americans in the
Civil War's Defining Battle](#)"

Dr. Catherine Clinton, University of Texas at San
Antonio, "Divided Houses: Gender and the Civil
War"

Dr. Barbara Gannon, University of Central Florida,
"Won Cause: Black and White Comradeship in the
Grand Army of the Republic"

Our Symposium routinely sells out!
Call toll free at 1-877-PAMPLIN to guarantee your spot now

IN THE STORES

Featured Items from The Civil War Store

T-shirts

Show off your park spirit in our new Pamplin Historical Park t-shirts. Shirts come in two styles: basic unisex crew-neck tees and three-quarter length sleeve baseball tees. Both are made in a soft-touch cotton-polyester blend making these shirts super comfortable and light, perfect for summer. They are screen printed with high-quality inks in three bold new designs featuring cannons and flags and come in a variety of colors: blue, heather gray, cardinal red, black, and black and white. Sizes available in small through XXL. Only in stock for a month and they are already topping our sales reports as one of the most popular items available in the Civil War Gift Shop in 2018.

Virginia's Finest

Pamplin Historical Park takes pride in allying with local businesses. We are branching out in the consumables that we carry, and are happy to announce that we stock items from three Virginia's Finest certified brands. Virginia's Finest is a program by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services that furthers Virginia agriculture by identifying and promoting top-quality food and beverage products produced here in the state.

Check out the front display at the Civil War Store for these selections:

Plantation Peanuts

Grown, harvested, and roasted in Wakefield, Plantation Peanuts are a select variety of nuts chosen for their classic style and flavor. Flavors are available in plain salted, double-dipped chocolate, salt & pepper, lemon-crab seasoning, butter toasted, southern barbeque, and honey roasted.

JJ King's Apple Cider Vinegar Secret Sauce

Based on her father's recipe, Jenny King's apple cider vinegar sauces are zesty and versatile. Perfect as a marinade for all meats, sauces also make a great salad dressing and bloody mary mix! Available in Original and Hot.

Haley's Honey

Raw honey harvested and produced by Haley's Apiaries in Colonial Heights. In May, Pamplin Historical Park had the great opportunity to collaborate with the Haley's and have five hives set up right here on site – about as local as you can get!



*Carley Elder
Admissions, Retail
& Collections Manager*

HUZZAH! HUZZAH!

Volunteer News

As the Park transitions from the craziness of the spring school season into the excitement of the summer Dollar Days, we would like to extend a very large “Thank You” to all of our volunteers. The volunteers have contributed a combined total of over 2,000 hours so far this year and we have only just begun. We would not have been able to handle the thousands of school children and their chaperones, our anniversary event, or any number of other occasions without them. As a way to show our appreciation, the Park will host an end of the season picnic on Thursday May 31 where we will recognize the volunteers and staff for all their hard work. While most of our volunteers are individuals or couples, there are a few times each year where we have large groups come and help.

Our biggest event to date was the anniversary of the Breakthrough Battle. Every year on whichever weekend comes closest to April 2 we host a multiday event. This year, that weekend happened to be a cold, rainy affair on April 7-8. Despite the less than ideal weather conditions, we had around 30 reenactors from as far away as New Jersey and Georgia come, camp out at the Park, and participate in our anniversary programs. They helped with programs about Civil War sharpshooters, soldier training, and how to attack or defend a fortified position among other things. The highlight of the weekend was the large scale battle we were able to reenact out in the meadow with cannons and everything. It was not just men either. We also had several ladies tag along and provide some civilian programs to balance out the military ones. There were talks on proper dress and etiquette as well as examples of aid societies and even a period band. All in all, it was a fun filled weekend that would not have been as successful without them.

The other large volunteer event this spring was the Civil War Trust’s annual Park Day on April 14. It is a nationwide event that encourages volunteers to head to their local historic site and help out. In exchange for their work, participants received a t-shirt and free admission to the site where they were working. Here at Pamplin Park, we had about 25 volunteers show up on a beautiful spring day to lend a hand. The majority of them were soldiers from Ft. Lee who were looking to for an opportunity to give back to the local community. We used the extra man power to white wash some of the fencing around Tudor Hall. While, it was not the most glamorous of jobs and elicited many jokes about Tom Sawyer, it was a wonderful opportunity to get people into the Park and aiding in the preservation of a historical site.

Although most of our volunteers in the spring are individuals or couples looking for something to do, there are several opportunities for groups to get involved as well and we like to take a moment at the end of each spring to acknowledge all the hard work they do. It was not just the school children keeping the Park busy so far this year. We had another successful anniversary weekend celebration and welcomed volunteers to the Park to be a part of the Civil War Trust’s Park Day. So even though the eventful spring season is coming to a close there will still be plenty of opportunities to help at the Park for individuals and groups alike as we enter the summer season.



*Christine Wuebker
Senior Education, Interpretation
& Volunteer Specialist*

RECRUITS & CONSCRIPTS

New Members to Pamplin Historical Park

Dr. and Mrs. Antonio Abbate	Glen Allen, VA	Mr. and Mrs. Shane Hubbard	Fort Lee, VA
Ms. Kristine Boodram	South Prince George, VA	Mr. and Mrs. Samuel F. Kirby	North Dinwiddie, VA
Mr. Ron Buss	Wadsworth, IL	Ms. Vicky Longwill	Chesterfield, VA
Mr. Mark Collins, Jr.	Prince George, VA	Mrs. Leslie Mathewson	Knoxville, TN
Mr. Stephen Day	Quinton, VA	Mr. Joe W. McFadden	Alexandria, VA
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eastman	Fredericksburg, VA	Ms. Jean S. Mitrovich	Chesterfield, VA
Mr. Keith P. Ellis	Bracey, VA	Mr. Kenneth W. Norman	Midlothian, VA
Mr. Peter F. Hilder Jr.	Church Road, VA	Mr. Dan Roberts and Ms. Rita Paolino	Chester, VA
Mr. Mark Fielding	Surry, VA	Ms. Carol Piersol	Richmond, VA
Mr. Daniel Franke	Petersburg, VA	Mr. Morrie Piersol	Richmond, VA
Mr. Bob Green	Glen Allen, VA	Mr. and Mrs. Chris Rizzo	North Dinwiddie, VA
Ms. Theresa Hanavan	Prince George, VA	Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Taylor	Ford, VA
Mr. Michael Harrington	Sutherland, VA	Mr. Gregory A. Thiele	San Diego, CA
Mr. and Mrs. Ty Haynes	Midlothian, VA	Mr. Kipp Turner	North Dinwiddie, VA
Mr. John Holt	Colonial Heights, VA	Mr. Ed Willeman	Chester, VA
		Mr. and Mrs. Buck Wooten	Moseley, VA

Welcome to the Regiment!

PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK'S TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL CIVIL WAR SYMPOSIUM: OCT. 19-21, 2018

FIRST LADIES OF CIVIL WAR HISTORY

PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK'S

FIRST ALL-FEMALE CIVIL WAR PANEL OF EXPERTS DISCUSS:

THROUGH THE HEART OF DIXIE: SHERMAN'S MARCH & AMERICA
'AND SO THE MURDEROUS WORK WENT ON':
TACTICS OF THE CIVIL WAR

GENERAL GEORGE E. PICKETT IN LIFE AND LEGEND

THE COLORS OF COURAGE: GETTYSBURG'S FORGOTTEN HISTORY
IMMIGRANTS, WOMEN, & AFRICAN-AMERICANS
IN THE CIVIL WAR'S DEFINING BATTLE

DIVIDED HOUSES: GENDER & THE CIVIL WAR

WON CAUSE: BLACK & WHITE COMRADESHIP
IN THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

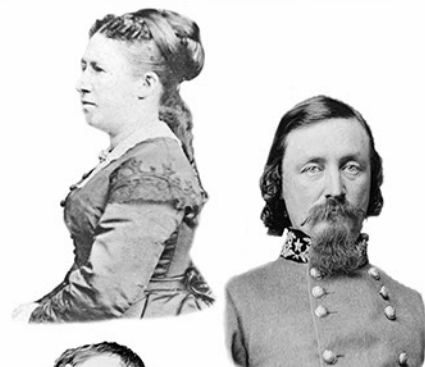


\$339 PRE-REGISTRATION REQ'D

SPACE IS LIMITED SO CALL TODAY!

PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK &

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIER
BOYDTON PLANK ROAD, PETERSBURG, VA 23803
WWW.PAMPLINPARK.ORG (804) 861-2408



Sponsored by



COMING EVENTS



Focus Weekend:
Technological
Innovations
Aug. 18-19, 2018
1:30 am - 3:00 pm

Visit the Park
during costumed
interpreter spinning

wool our focus weekends and see demonstrations at Tudor Hall and our Military Encampment areas. These programs highlight aspects of antebellum life and soldier's experiences which are outside of normal Park scheduled programming. Included with regular admission



Petersburg Civil War
Round Table
Sept. 6, 2018
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Join guest speaker and
legendary Civil War
historian James I.
"Bud" Robertson.
The Petersburg Civil
War Roundtable
(PCWRT) will meet

the first Thursday of each month (except June, July, and August) at Pamplin Historical Park and the National Museum of the Civil War Soldier from 7:00 pm-8:00 pm. Annual membership is \$40.00. Individuals who are already members of Pamplin Historical Park can become members of PCWRT for \$20.00. Non-members can attend for \$5.00 each meeting. Call (804) 861-2408 for more information.

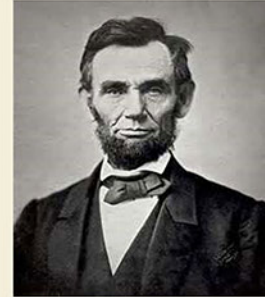


Breakthrough Brew
& Wine Fest
Sept. 15, 2018
11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Join us for a tasting of
beer and wine while

enjoying live music, in the picturesque setting of the Park's Freedom Garden. Craft and food vendors will be available to satisfy hunger, while offering amazing goods for sale. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the gate. Valid identification is required upon entry for proof of age to consume alcohol.

BOARD OF EXAMINATION



Trivia Contest

Q: After his death on April 15, 1865, an item was found in President Lincoln's coat pocket that he might have acquired on his visit to Petersburg on April 3, 1865. What was the item?

You can win, too!

Submit your answer along with your name and address by February 28, to: triviaincontest@pamplinpark.org. All correct responses will be entered into a drawing to select a winner. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to The Civil War Store and will be mentioned in the next newsletter.

Last Issue's Q & A

Q: General U.S. Grant, not a music connoisseur, once said he only knew two songs – one was "Yankee Doodle." What was the other song?

A: General Grant was famously tone deaf. When once asked what his favorite songs were he replied there were two, "One was Yankee Doodle and the other wasn't." This contrasts with his opponent, Confederate General Robert E. Lee who once remarked "I don't think we could have an army without music." Most officers, including General Lee, felt that the music supplied by military bands was very important to keep up the morale of the men.

Generals Lee, Jackson, and Longstreet were all serenaded by Confederate bands while in camp and they enjoyed the music very much. The bands that remained with the army often used music borrowed from Northern song books and used captured instruments in place of the inferior Confederate-made instruments. Some Confederate bands were better than others and not all bands sounded that good. One Confederate soldier regarded the playing of his regiment's band "comparable to the braying of a pack of mules..."

Congratulations Jim Murray of Smithfield, Virginia! His answer was selected from all correct answers to the last trivia question. Mr. Murray wins a \$25 gift certificate for The Civil War Store.