



# THE OHIO VOLUNTEER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHEASTERN OHIO CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



MARCH, 2010

## MARCH MEETING

The March meeting will be held at 9:00, March 27. It will be held at the NINTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Use the large parking lot on the west side of the church and enter through the lower door. Wayne Hogue will be the host for the meeting supplying the treats.

Our speaker for this month will be Sharon Hunter. She will speak on THE MOON SISTERS, CONFEDERATE SPIES. Sharon is a freelance writer from Warsaw (Coshocton Co.) who has a long time interest in history especially that of her home state of Ohio. She worked for six years at Historical Roscoe Village including two years as a guide. She has written for The Coshocton Tribune, The Budget, Holmes County Bargain Hunter and the Journal. She is a contributor to the Country Living (electric) magazine and her article, The Moon Sisters, Ohio's Confederate Spies was published in the November 2009 issue. She is also a member of the Holmes County Civil War Roundtable.

During our meeting we will also briefly discuss the overrated Civil War generals and the new survey sent out by Andy Warhola on the Most underated generals of the Civil War.

### FUTURE PROGRAMS

APRIL 24

Harold George

"Andrews' Raiders and the Great Locomotive Chase"

MAY 22

Jerry Wherley

"The CSS Hunley"

JUNE 26

Howard Strouse

"The Trent Affair"

### ANDERSONVILLE SOCIETY

There will be a meeting of the Andersonville Society

April 11, at 2 p.m.

at the home of Eileen Mathias,

640 N. Dawson Street

Uhrichsville.

For more details see Herb Parkinson.

## JANUARY'S MEETING

Because of the snowy morning there were only about a dozen brave souls at the meeting. Those attending did enjoy Civil War songs played on the Mountain dulcimer by Rev. Ellison. They also discussed the most overrated Civil War Generals. The Hard question of the month was answered by Fred Wickam and the easy question was answered by Sandy Wickam.

**NOTE.** We need prizes for the question of the month. If any member has material at home they would like to donate as prizes the group would be most appreciative.

## Question of the Month

**HARD QUESTION:** Who was the last surviving Union general, and when did he die?

**EASY QUESTION :** During the Civil War, more than 800,000 immigrants entered the United States. From which three countries did the majority of the immigrants come?

## DUES



Dues for the year 2010 are now due.

Single membership dues are \$15.

Couple membership dues are \$25.

Family membership dues are \$30.

## PROBLEM SOLVED

Submitted by Calvin Rice

When General Robert Schenck was given command of the Middle Department, which covered Baltimore and eastern Maryland, he faced the problem that had defeated Butler in New Orleans - what should be done about pro-secessionist young women who spit in the faces of Union soldiers or berated them as "Lincoln's hirelings".

Schenck recruited a dozen of the city's most brazen harlots, paid them to wear Confederate flags close to their cleavage and to warmly greet any woman sporting Confederate colors with a cheery cry of "Sister in the Holy Cause"! His problem with the women ceased in a week.

SPRING IS FINALLY ARRIVED BUT THIS WINTER IT WAS

## "COLD ENOUGH TO FREEZE THE BALLS OFF A BRASS MONKEY"

IF YOU BELIEVE THIS TO BE A VULGAR EXPRESSION READ ON.

It was necessary to keep a good supply of cannon balls near the cannon on old war ships. But how to prevent them from rolling about the deck was the problem. The storage method devised was to stack them as a square based pyramid, with one ball on top, resting on four, resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem - how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding and rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate with 16 round indentations, called, for reasons unknown, a Monkey. But if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make them of brass - hence Brass Monkey. Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey. thus, it was quite literally, cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

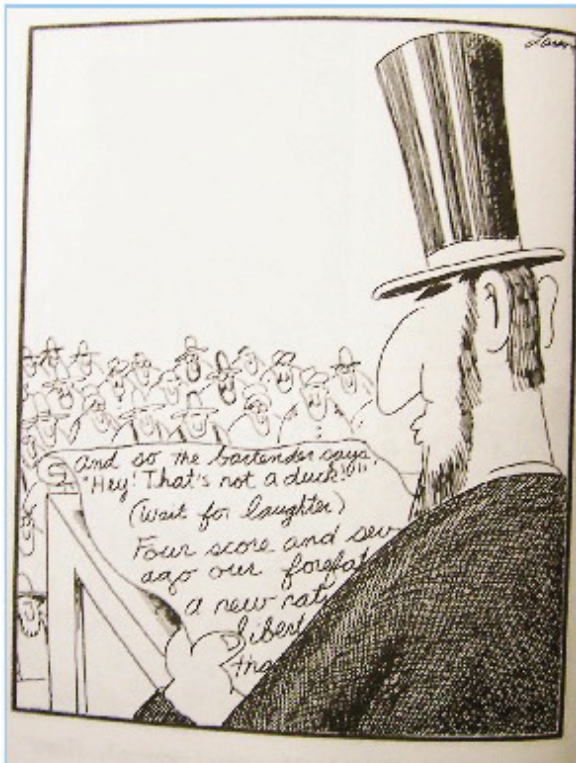
Please send any information you would like to have in the newsletter to me a week ahead of the meeting. Phone: 740 - 638-2126 E-mail: [irishman1020@hotmail.com](mailto:irishman1020@hotmail.com) or Ralph McCreedy, 8600 Oakland Road, Chandlersville, Ohio 43727.



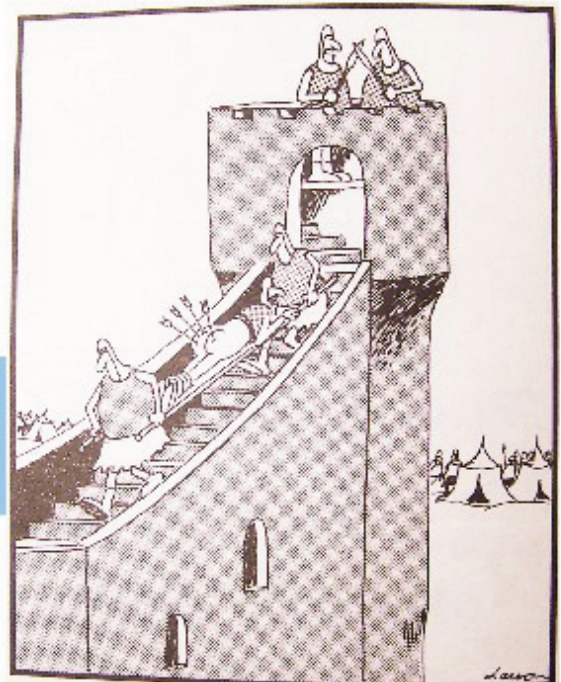
## CUSHING AWARDED METAL OF HONOR



Because the efforts of Kent Masterson Brown, well know Civil War author and Senator Russ Feingold of Wisconsin, Alonzo Cushing has been awarded the medal of honor. He is the first Civil War soldier to be Honored posthumously. Alonzo is buried at West Point from where he graduated in 1861. He was 22 years old when he was killed at Gettysburg while he single handed his artillery piece.



## HISTORICAL HUMOR



"So then I says to Borg, 'You know, as long as we're under siege, one of us oughta moon these Saxon dogs.'"