



September Suspense: Lincoln's Union in Peril

September 1862

Jackson's Greatest Victory, South Mountain, Antietam

October 10 ~ 14, 2012

On September 4, 1862, Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia splashed across the Potomac River into Maryland at White's Ford. During the next few days, Lee's veteran Confederates settled in around the town of Frederick. The first invasion of the North had begun.

With his invasion, Lee expected some 14,000 Federal troops garrisoning Harpers Ferry and Martinsburg to withdraw northward. In fact, Lee's plans depended upon it – the Confederates needed the Shenandoah Valley as their line of supply and communication while they campaigned north of the Potomac. The Federals, however, refused to withdraw, forcing Lee into a quandary.

Lee decided to divide his army into four parts. Special Order # 191 contained all the operational details: three separate columns totaling almost 28,000 men would march on Harpers Ferry, surround the place, and capture or destroy the Union garrison there. These orders fell into the hands of the Union and what they did with this knowledge and the results is a story worth being told.

September Suspense is the tour that takes you to the time of uncertainty like no other time during the Civil War when the U.S. was in peril. This is a human story that will be told by one of the greatest historians of our time Dennis Frye.

Wednesday October 10, 2012

3:00 pm Check-in to local Frederick, Maryland hotel

During the Civil War, **Frederick**, a busy crossroads on America's first National Road and first railroad, was witness to three Confederate invasions, thirty-eight skirmishes and two major battles (South Mountain and Monocacy) as hundreds of



thousands of Northern and Southern soldiers marched through the community. Frederick epitomized the tragedy, turmoil and sacrifice that attended four desperate years of fighting. Near Harpers Ferry and Antietam, it is a perfect location for this tour.

4:00 pm Coach will take the group to Frederick
4:30 pm Wine Tasting at **Frederick Cellars**

Frederick Cellars is a “city winery” located in downtown Frederick’s Everedy Square/Shab Row district. The winery’s tasting room and production facility reside in a wonderful brick warehouse that was originally built in 1904 by the Crystal Plate Ice Company. This building has undoubtedly seen many uses over the years, from moving and storage to antiques bazaar. Now, its thick walls and tall ceilings perfectly accommodate the steel tanks and oak barrels that turn grapes from an estate vineyards in Frederick and Washington Counties into Frederick Cellars’ fine and casual small-batch wines.

5:30 pm Dinner at a local restaurant
7:00 pm Tour of the **National Museum of Civil War Medicine**

Visitors to the NMCWM will find a unique center of civil war history, guiding them through a century and a half’s worth of medical history as well as civil war camp life, hospital life, African American life, Women’s and children’s roles during the war, and many more aspects of American history during the Civil war era. The NMCWM highlights the challenges faced by the doctors and surgeons of the civil war era and the innovations that came out of that era that led to the modern military medical system.

The museum sites begin with displays and artifacts highlighting general medicine in the 1800s progressing into wartime medicine and life, all the while, looking into the faces of real people who were treated and their caregivers. Reading their stories and memories puts a human face on the medicine of the time. A space in each museum is dedicated to Dr. Jonathan Letterman, the Major in charge of the medical department of the Army of the Potomac. His cohesive plan of triage, evacuation, hospital, and supply organization not only saved the lives of countless Civil War soldiers; it continues to save lives on today’s battlefields in Iraq, Afghanistan, and in civilian life wherever emergency medical help is needed.

The interactive experience that is the National Museum of Civil War Medicine not only gives a snapshot of Civil War-time medicine including dentistry, veterinary medicine and medical evacuation, it allows visitors to put faces and names to those who fought, were injured, the surgeons and caregivers who tended them. The experience is a personal one, engaging visitors in the stories of soldiers, surgeons, medics, and nurses as they gain an understanding of the medical advances of the time. For some a bit of family history may be found as well, the museum has a research department willing to help those with questions about ancestors injured in the war.

Thursday, October 11, 2012 – Harpers Ferry – Jackson's Greatest Victory

Breakfast (included) at the hotel
8:00 am Depart with historian and author **Dennis Frye**

This was the site of the famous John Brown's Raid in 1859; it also changed hands throughout the Civil War. We will spend some time on the history and the 1859 raid the majority of the day will be spend on 1862 and Jackson.

Time for lunch (on own) in Harpers Ferry

The **Battle of Harpers Ferry** was fought September 12–15, 1862, as part of the Maryland Campaign of the American Civil War. As Gen. Robert E. Lee's Confederate army invaded Maryland, a portion of his army under Maj. Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson surrounded, bombarded, and captured the Union garrison at Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia), a major victory at relatively minor cost.



As Lee's Army of Northern Virginia advanced down the Shenandoah Valley into Maryland, he planned to secure his line of supply back to Virginia. Although he was being pursued at a leisurely pace by Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan's Army of the Potomac, outnumbering him more than two to one, Lee chose the risky strategy of dividing his army and sent one portion to converge and attack Harpers Ferry from three directions. Col. Dixon S. Miles, Union commander at Harpers Ferry, insisted on keeping most of the troops near the town instead of taking up commanding positions on the surrounding heights. The slim defenses of the most important position, Maryland Heights, first encountered the approaching Confederate on



September 12, but only brief skirmishing ensued. Strong attacks by two Confederate brigades on September 13 drove the Union troops from the heights.

During the fighting on Maryland Heights, the other Confederate columns arrived and were astonished to see that critical positions to the west and south of town were not defended. Jackson methodically positioned his artillery

around Harpers Ferry and ordered Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill to move down the west bank of the Shenandoah River in preparation for a flank attack on the Federal left the next morning. By the morning of September 15, Jackson had positioned nearly 50 guns surrounding the Ferry from the nearby mountain tops. He began a fierce artillery barrage from all sides and ordered an infantry assault. Miles realized that the situation was hopeless and agreed with his subordinates to raise the white flag of surrender. Before he could surrender personally, he was mortally wounded by an artillery shell and died the next day. After processing more than 12,000 Union prisoners, Jackson's men then rushed to Sharpsburg, Maryland, to rejoin Lee for the Battle of Antietam.



6:00 pm Dinner at a local restaurant (included)

8:00 pm Return to hotel

Friday, October 12, 2012 – Frederick & South Mountain

Breakfast (included) at hotel

8:00 am Depart with **Dennis Frye** pick up local guide for tour of Frederick
Stops will include the **Monocacy Battlefield** where **Special Order # 191**
will be on display.

Lincoln visited the Antietam Battlefield soon after the Battle. Upon leaving from the train station he gave a moving speech to the people of Frederick. The speech will be read at the train station during the town tour.

1:00 pm Lunch (on own) in Frederick
Battle of South Mountain

South Mountain is a natural obstacle that separates the Hagerstown Valley and Cumberland Valley from the eastern part of Maryland.

After Lee invaded Maryland, a copy of an order, known as order 191, detailing troop movements that he wrote fell into the hands of McClellan. From this, McClellan learned that Lee had split his forces and the Union general hoped to attack and defeat some of these isolated forces before they could concentrate against him. To reach Lee, McClellan had to move across South Mountain. Lee learned of McClellan's intelligence coup and quickly sent forces to reinforce the passes to block his advance.

Not a well know battle, its significance is extraordinary. It is not visited by the general public so this will be a rare treat for participants. Not a "battlefield" as most understand Battlefields, you will be places most never see. Stops will include Crampton Gap, Turn Gap and Fox Gap.

6:00 pm Dinner at a local restaurant

Saturday, October 13, 2012 – Antietam

Breakfast (included) at the hotel

8:30 am Meet Dennis Frye – All Day

Antietam

Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia—about 40,000 men—entered the state of Maryland on September 4, 1862, following their victory at Second Bull Run as August closed. Emboldened by success, the Confederate leadership intended to take the war into enemy territory. Lee's invasion of Maryland was intended to run simultaneously with an invasion of Kentucky by the armies of Braxton Bragg and Kirby Smith. It was also necessary for logistical reasons, as northern Virginia's farms had been stripped bare of



food. Based on events such as the Baltimore riots in the spring of 1861 and the fact that President Lincoln had to pass through the city in disguise en route to his inauguration, it was assumed that Maryland would welcome the Confederate forces warmly. They sang the tune "Maryland, my Maryland!" as they marched, but by the fall of 1862 pro-Union sentiment was winning out, especially in the western parts of the state. Civilians generally hid inside their houses as Lee's army passed through their towns, while the Army of the Potomac was cheered. Some Confederate politicians, including President Jefferson Davis, believed the prospect of foreign recognition would increase if they won a military victory on Northern soil; such a victory might gain recognition and financial support from Great Britain and France.

The Battle considered "The Bloodiest Day" began September 17, 1862 just before 6:00 am and continued just after 6:00 pm. Did the North win, was it a draw or can it be considered a turning point?



Some students of history question the designation of "strategic victory" for the Union. Lee displayed great generalship in holding his own in battle against an army that greatly outnumbered him. Casualties were comparable on both sides, although Lee lost a higher percentage of his army. Lee withdrew from the battlefield first, the technical definition of the tactical loser in a Civil War battle. However, in a strategic sense, despite being a tactical draw,

Antietam is considered a turning point of the war and a victory for the Union because it ended Lee's strategic campaign (his first invasion of the North) and it allowed President Lincoln to issue the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, which took effect on January 1, 1863. The Union victory and Lincoln's proclamation played a considerable role in dissuading the governments of France and Britain from recognizing the Confederacy; some suspected they were planning to do so in the aftermath of another Union defeat.



Stops will include:

- Dunker Church
- Corn Field
- Bloody Lane
- Burnside Bridge

We will have a picnic lunch on the Battlefield (included)

6:00 pm Dinner at a local restaurant



Sunday, October 14, 2012

11:00 am Breakfast (included) at the hotel
Checkout



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

Dennis served as an Associate Producer for the Civil War movie *Gods and Generals*, during which he recruited and coordinated nearly 3,000 re-enactors for the film. Dennis also is 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 twelve 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 Tables.

Dennis also is a well-known author, with 77 articles and six books. His latest book is entitled *Antietam Revealed*. Dennis' newest book — *Harpers Ferry Under Fire* — published in the spring of 2012. To coincide with the Sesquicentennial. Dennis currently is writing a book entitled *September Suspense: Lincoln's Union in Peril*, scheduled for release in 2012 to coincide with the anniversary of the first invasion of the North and the Maryland Campaign. Dennis has written for prestigious Civil War magazines such as *Civil War Times Illustrated*, *America's Civil War*, *Blue & Gray Magazine*, *North and South Magazine*, and *Hallowed Ground*, and is a guest contributor to the *Washington Post*.



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

This tour package includes the following:

- Motorcoach transportation throughout tour
- Dennis Frye's new book - September's **Suspense: Lincoln's Union in Peril** – personally autographed during the tour.
- Four night's lodging – Fairfield Inn & Suites – Frederick, MD
- Four Breakfasts (at the hotel)
- Dinner at Bavarian Inn
- Two dinners at local restaurants
- Crab & Steak Dinner at historic Carriage House Inn
- One Box Lunch
- Admission to Harpers Ferry
- Historian Guided tour of Harpers Ferry
- Admission to Antietam Battlefield

- Guided tour of Antietam Battlefield
- Wine Tasting
- All taxes and gratuities on lodging, meals, and attractions.
- Guided Tour of Frederick
- Admission to National Museum of Civil War Medicine
- Special Evening tour of the Museum
- Tips for historian
- Tip for driver
- Escort from Civil War Tours.net – Cathy Strite

\$897.00 per person (double occupancy)

\$1035.00 – single

All participants are responsible for getting to and from the Fairfield Inn & Suites

For questions and to check availability please call:

Cathy Strite (717) 201-4381

All-In-One Tours/Civil War Tours.net
3303 Saddlewood Circle
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

www.civilwartours.net – join us on Facebook



**REGISTRATION FORM ~ September Suspense
October 10~14, 2012**

TO REGISTER for this tour, please fill out the form below and mail it with your **non-refundable deposit of \$150.00 per person** to:

All-In-One Tours/Civil War Tours.net
Attention: Mike Strite
3303 Saddlewood Circle
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Final Payment is due on or before September 10, 2012 and becomes non-refundable at that point. **Trip Insurance is recommended**

Name _____

Roommate(s) name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Number of people you are registering. _____

Amount of check enclosed _____

(Make Checks payable to All-In-One Tours & Receptive Services)

Credit Card – please note price reflects a 3% discount if paying by check and will be added back if using credit card for payment

Type of Card Visa Mastercard Discover (Please circle one)

Card Number _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

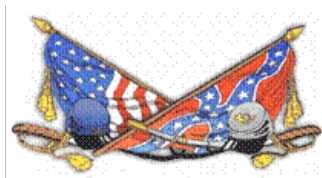
Expiration Date: _____ / _____

Signature _____

Any dietary restrictions? _____

PHONE REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Space is limited and will be handled on a first come first served bases.



Civil War Tours