

National brings in \$3 million

P'ville draws 37,000 plus

Perryville's equivalent of Derby Day is an October Civil War re-enactment.

On Oct. 7-8, that activity took on special meaning as the Battle of Perryville was staged as a national Civil War re-enactment and resulted in a multitude of positives for the Boyle County community of 750 people.

"More than 37,000 attended the national," Chris Kolakowski, executive director of the Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association, said, "and that brought in some \$3 million to the local economy."

"Approximately 3,800 re-enactors and civilians participated with participants from 30 states checking in horses for the event. We also had re-enactors from three foreign countries."

In addition, Kolakowski said the Battlefield Protection Association raised about \$45,000 for preservation efforts at Perryville through re-enactor registration fees and other fund-raising efforts.

He said Perryville had more spectators than it did for its national event in 2002, but some 1,200 fewer re-enactors than four years ago.



battle at dawn

The dawn battle at Perryville ranks as one of the favorite shooting experiences of Frank Becker. More on Becker and his Civil War photography is on page 3.

"However, we had a larger Union army here - 1,400 members - than at any re-enactment west of the Appalachians since Chicamauga 1999."

The economic impact of

the national was experienced in more than just Boyle County, Kolakowski noted.

"A 15-mile surrounding area experienced economic benefits," he explained.

Clark fort at Boonesborough

Designed for river defense

The Union army's early efforts to control traffic on the Kentucky River has led to establishment of one of the state's newest Civil War attractions.

The Civil War Fort at Boonesborough, opened by the Winchester-Clark County Tourism Commission in 2005, is getting

increased attention from visitors across the nation, according to Tourism Director Nancy Turner.

The earthen fort, located in Clark County across the river from Boonesborough, provides an interesting side trip for War-Between-the-States enthusiasts, she noted.

see ROAD, page 6

"That encompasses Harrodsburg, Danville, Stanford and Springfield to the west and visitors stayed as far away as Bardstown. We really spread the wealth. It was an event that benefited Central Kentucky as well as Perryville."

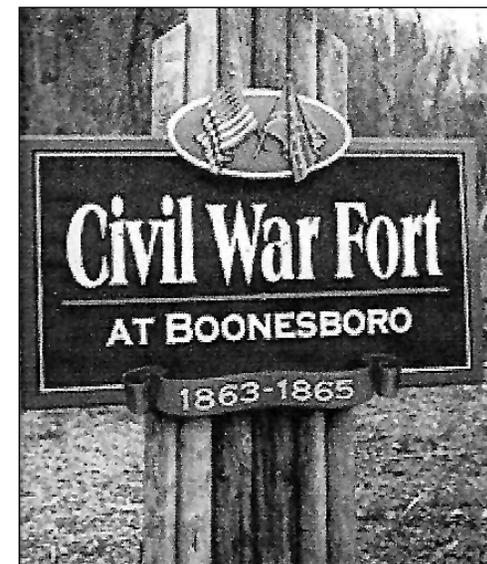
see 30, page 5

M-Springs dedicates, new center

Bill Neikirk has realized a 14-year-old dream for the Mill Springs Battlefield.

A museum that the president of that site's battlefield association long has sought was dedicated Nov. 4 at Nancy (Pulaski County) before a crowd of

see ROGERS, page 5



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Joe Brent says...

A crisis faces Kentucky

Over the years, Kentucky has had a national reputation as a leader in battlefield and Civil War sites preservation. Kentucky also has the second highest number of Civil War battlefields listed in the National Register of Historic Places (Arkansas is number one) and there are over 60 sites statewide that have interpretation and-or preservation programs.

At least 10 battlefields and sites have preservation and management plans, documents essential to the long-term preservation of any site.

The Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), the state historic preservation office, has driven the success of Civil War sites preservation in Kentucky. Until recently, the KHC had a staff person devoted to the preservation of Civil War and other military sites. Due to budget cuts this position has been lost. For Kentucky to continue growing and developing its Civil War resources a restoration of the Military Sites Preservation Coordinator at the KHC is essential.

We are at a crossroads in Kentucky. Are we to continue to be a national leader or are we to watch everything that has been done slowly fall away for want of a voice at the state level?

It is up to us, all of us who cherish the preservation of our Civil War heritage, to find a way to restore the Civil War position in Frankfort. As a rule, state government listens to the voters - it is time we made our voices heard.

(Bugle Columnist Joseph E. Brent is vice-president of Mudpuppy and Waterdog, a historic preservation consulting firm in Versailles. He can be contacted at jbrent1@alltel.net.)

Bugle Editorial

Is a national worth the effort? Absolutely

By Joni House

As I drove home on Sunday night after the National Civil War Re-enactment at Perryville this past October, a somewhat numb and exhausted feeling began to overtake me. All of my energy and efforts for the last 18 months went into the event and thankfully it was wildly successful.

Thousands of visitors poured through the gates to watch the grand spectacle. The park was alive and humming for the entire week of the event.

The grand "show" drew attention and income to the battlefield as well as the community.

After all the hard work and enduring migraine headaches usually associated with an event of this size are over, one has to look back at the event in its entirety. It was an economic boom. The region benefited financially from the event, but what about the battlefield? What about history? To this I can safely say, "Yes!"

Those benefits were delivered by "people dressed in funny clothes," as one precocious young man at the battlefield described them. This year the re-enactors contributed thousands of dollars in preservation funds as all of their registration fees are contributed directly to the Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association. Additionally, they demonstrated to the public that this site is important. History lives at Perryville.

Months before the actual event, re-enactors put muscle and time into making this event a success. There are dozens of people who need praise for their efforts here at Perryville this past year, and, hopefully, I have personally expressed to each of them our gratitude.

They and the countless others that come to this hallowed ground illuminate the life of our ancestors and insure that future generations of Kentuckians better understand and protect their historic sites.



Joni House is preservation specialist and program coordinator at Perryville Battlefield and State Historic Site.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ELKHORN CITY

Re-enactment, Sept. 21,
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

FAIRVIEW

Jefferson Davis Birthday
Celebration, June 2-3, 8
a.m. to 10 p.m.

GEORGETOWN

Morgan's Raid, June 15-
17

MILL SPRINGS

National Re-enactment,
Sept. 29-30

RICHMOND

Living History, May 10-

11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sixth Annual Re-enactment,
Aug. 25-26, 10 a.m.
to 4 p.m.

Celebrity Golf
Tournament, Sept. 7

SACRAMENTO

13th Annual Re-enactment,
May 18-20

SHEPHERDSVILLE

Morgan's Great Raid,
Aug. 4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

TEBBS BEND

Tebbs Bend Flea Market
battlefield fund-raiser,
Sept. 8

Becker loves their intensity

Re-enactors keys to good images

For Frank Becker, the best time to experience a Civil War re-enactment is dawn.

The Lexington photographer makes a habit of doing that and, in the process, has obtained some of his very best photos.

"The dawn battle at Perryville in 2003 will stick in my mind forever," Becker states. "The great anticipation from darkness to dawn and the beautiful lighting that occurred was special.

"It's at dawn when re-enactors are getting aroused and excited about the coming day. The anticipation is incredible."

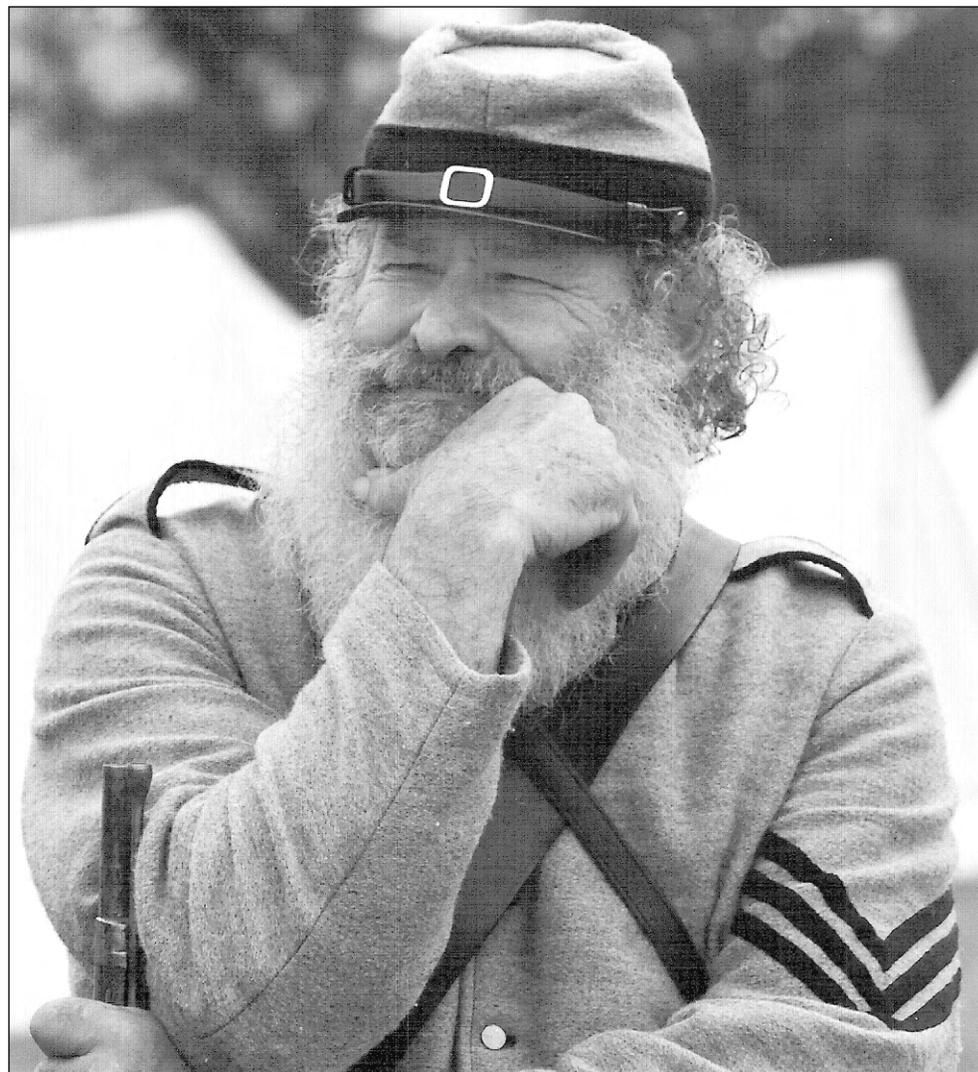
Not surprisingly, one of Frank's dawn photos is his favorite and one that was featured in a Shutterbug magazine spread on re-enactment photography.

"My image at Perryville was chosen as a lead-in photo," he said, which is

considered a genuine achievement where this leading photography publication is concerned. For this particular feature, thousands submitted photos for the article and Becker's was one of only seven used.

"The special thing about shooting Civil War events is the character of the re-enactors," Becker noted. "These people are very dedicated and that impresses me. You can see it in their personalities, their intensity and interest and that comes through in their pictures."

Frank, who has taken photos "all my life," became interested in the Civil War in the late 1990s when he and his son, Patrick, began attending re-enactments. Both were interested in history and they quickly learned to appreciate what the re-enactors were accomplishing



in bringing the War Between the States alive.

"I became somewhat serious about photographing Civil War events in 2002," he commented, "and really got turned on the following year and took photos at Richmond, Perryville, Georgetown and Gettysburg

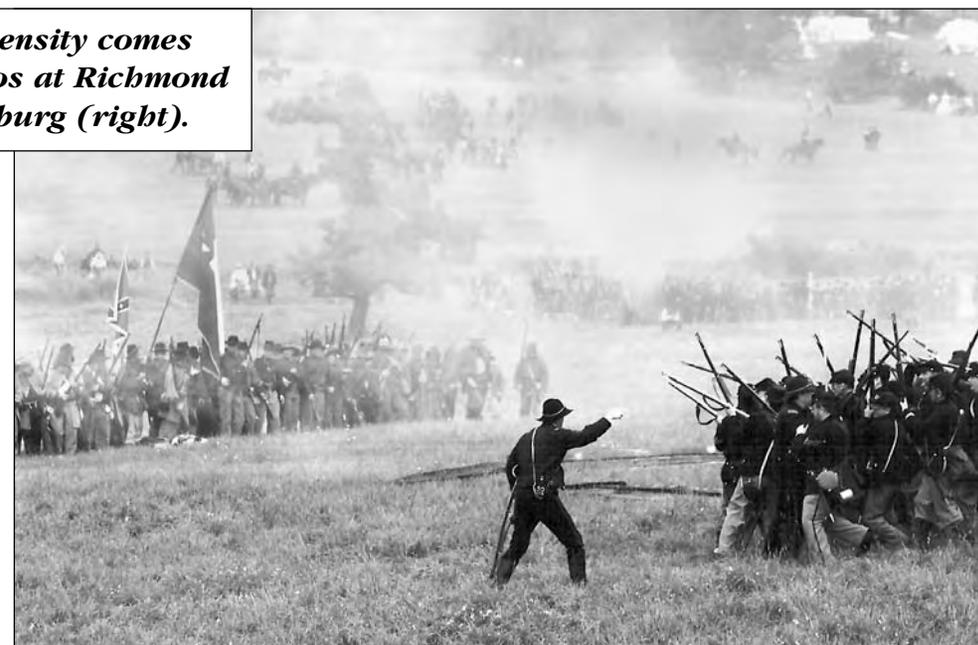
Becker's closeups bring his subjects, their personalities and the Civil War to life.

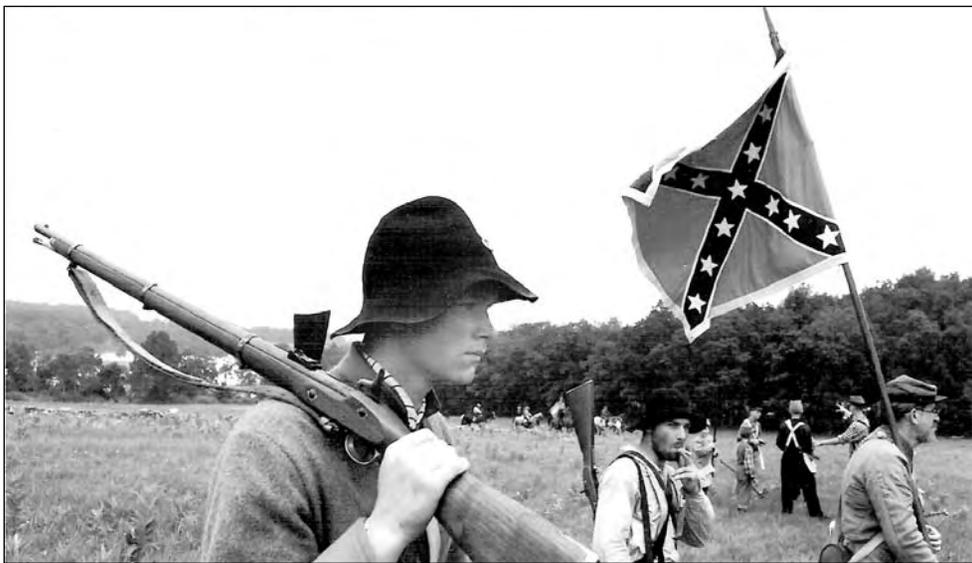
among others. Now, I guess I've shot re-enactments and living history events at some 12 different sites."

see TIMING, page 4



Re-enactment intensity comes through in photos at Richmond (left) and Gettysburg (right).





aftermath

Confederate re-enactors head back to camp at Gettysburg after participating in a skirmish at that battlefield. Becker particularly enjoys shooting at Perryville and Richmond.

Timing is critical, which makes research a must

continued from page 3

Although many of his re-enactment photos are outstanding, Frank really enjoys shooting living history activities.

"With living history events, you can get some good closeups and I love that part."

Becker changed from film to digital photography in 2002 and is constantly upgrading equipment as technology improves. And, long and very wide lenses have become a staple.

"I almost never use a normal lens," he said. "I find I'm either zooming way in or way out."

Timing also is critical, and that's where research is an asset.

"I definitely want to know what will be going on," Becker explained. "I talk to the re-enactors and I read books about the battle I'm shooting."

Despite his success as a photographer, Becker's pri-

mary occupation is that of an equine lawyer.

"That's about 80-90 percent of what I do. I have degrees in biology and chemistry and was a teacher in Lexington public schools before I went to law school. I've been doing equine law now for 25 years."

His photo interest, however, led to the establishment of a separate business, The Time Photography. And, the striking photos he did of re-enactors led him into doing portrait work and some cutting-edge wedding photography.

Frank is in so much demand for weddings that he's now booking for 2008. That's the good news. The bad news is that demand is limiting his Civil War shoots.

"And," he said, "I miss that terribly."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Frank Becker's Civil War photos at www.pbbase.com/lexfrank)

CWPT nets \$217,718 For Kentucky Campaign

The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) has surpassed its 2006 Kentucky Campaign goal for the battlefields of Perryville and Richmond.

David Duncan, CWPT's director of membership and development, announced in late November that \$217,718 was received in the campaign to save 454 battlefield acres at the two sites.

"After printing and postage expenses were subtracted, our final net amount exceeded our goal by \$218," Duncan said. "In other words, we may have JUST made it across the finish line, but we made it!"

The fund-raising effort among CWPT members preserves 154 acres of land in two parcels at Perryville and 300 acres at Richmond.

"The Perryville land will be donated to the Commonwealth of Kentucky for incorporation into the existing state park there," Duncan explained, "and the land at Richmond will be incorporated into a park owned by Madison County."

Duncan said \$1,137,500 of federal matching funds was utilized in the preservation effort along with approximately \$1,320,000 provided by the state of Kentucky through various grants.

"Using that math, we already had \$2,457,500 of the \$2,675,000 cost - or 92 percent of the money - on

the table," he noted. "All that remained was for CWPT to raise the final \$217,500 to leverage those federal and state grants, and the deals could be done."

The Kentucky campaign is one of many preservation efforts in which the CWPT is involved each year.

"Anually, we do about 15-20 transactions or deals," Duncan said, "but we don't go to our membership for all of them.

"We've saved about 16,000 acres nationwide over the last seven years and, up until recently, all of that was done without incurring any sort of debt.

"We had to spend \$12 million to save 208 acres at the Fredericksburg battlefield," he continued. "We took out a loan for that and we'll probably have half of that paid off in the next 90 days or so. We have the next five years to pay off the remaining \$6 million."

COTILLION TO AID BARDSTOWN MUSEUM

The Civil War Museum in Bardstown will be the recipient of proceeds from a medieval-1890s cotillion Feb. 17.

Advance tickets are \$20 each and \$25 at the door for the second annual event conducted at Jideco Hall.

Formal period clothing is required for entrance.

For more information, contact Heather Courson at 502-348-8336.

30 planned year ahead

continued from page 1

Planning for the national began a year ahead, he stated, with a steering committee of some 20 individuals who regularly attended monthly meetings.

"A lot of local people were involved - probably about a third of the community - but we also had folks from Frankfort, the state parks group, and state police among others, with a visitor's convention bureau also playing a big role."

An event of such magnitude also poses some logistical problems.

"The greatest one is just the sheer volume of people who come and what that means in terms of such things as shuttle buses, port-a-johns and food vendors. It's not that we had difficulty with that, but it's just so much and, for that weekend, the population of Boyle County basically doubles."

Kolakowski and the community, however, already are looking ahead to hosting another national re-enactment.

Mill Springs has the next one in 2007, but Perryville would "like to have another national in 2012."

"That's our 150th battle anniversary," he pointed out.

What's your story?

Got a story for the Bugle? Contact the editor at 859-624-1248 or at fordpr@mis.net.



the widow

Debra Rogers portrays the Widow Gibson at "Perryville on the Farm," one of the living history activities during the Battle of Perryville's national re-enactment weekend. - Photo by Joni House

Teas conducted as fundraisers

Camp Nelson has embarked upon a series of afternoon teas at its White House headquarters to benefit the preservation of its Civil War Heritage Park.

An inaugural tea was conducted Jan. 21 and six more such events are scheduled. The 2 p.m. Saturday occasions are scheduled Feb. 18, Hearts & Flowers Tea; March 11, Luck of the Irish Tea; April 15, Victorian Tea; May 27, American Girl Tea; June 27, Butterflies & Blooms Tea, and July 22, Red, White & Blue Tea.

The donation for a tea is \$15 per person. A door prize is given at each tea along with a keepsake for those in attendance. Presentations are conducted appropriate to the theme.

Reservations can be made by calling the Camp Nelson White House at 859-881-9126.

Mill Springs host for 2007 national

Kentucky's second straight year of hosting a national Civil War re-enactment will be realized Sept. 29-30 when Mill Springs takes center stage.

All three phases of the Jan. 19, 1862 Battle of Mill Springs will be replicated, Mill Springs Battlefield Association officials have announced.

Battle plans for Sept. 29 include a morning cavalry and artillery action replicating the Battle of Dutton's Hill.

Afternoon action will focus on the Fight for the

Cornfield.

At dawn Sept. 30, armies will relive the Fight in the Fog followed by an afternoon action, the Fight for the Split Rail Fence.

The current Mill Springs Battlefield property will be utilized for the re-enactment along with adjacent privately owned land totaling some 600 acres.

The Battle of Mill Springs was fought Jan. 19, 1862 and was the first major Union victory of the Civil War and was part of the struggle for control of Cumberland Gap.

Rogers speaks at opening

continued from page 1

some 800 people.

Fifth District Congressman Hal Rogers, who provided major assistance in obtaining federal funding for the 10,000-square-foot building, was the featured speaker at the dedication.

The Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor's Center and Museum, built at a cost of more than \$2 million, features a spacious reception area, a gift shop, an interpretative center that also serves as a community room, and a reference library containing more than 15,000 Civil War books.

A 20-minute video and a diorama provide an interpretation of the Battle of Mill Springs.

One of the museum dis-

plays features three cannons and explanation of different artillery pieces used during the Civil War. An authentic Civil War cannon also has been donated by the Seventh Kentucky Union re-enactment unit for museum display.

The visitor's center and museum overlooks the Mill Springs National Cemetery on the outskirts of Nancy. Some \$1.3 million of the building's cost was paid through federal grants with \$700,000 provided by the state of Kentucky and \$200,000 by Pulaski County.

The facility is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday. The center is closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Road built for access

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Constructed in 1863, the fort was manned by African-American soldiers and designed for defense of the Kentucky River.

A one-half mile road was constructed by Union soldiers for access to the fortification stationed just above the hill.

Construction materials, supplies, tools and food were brought up the road, which features a variety of switchbacks to lessen the effects of the grade.

The original road now is a self-guided nature trail with interpretative signs concerning the history of the fort and war, plus information about early settlements, geology and geography of the area. Remnants of the fortification walls and trenches provide visitors with a concept of how the fort functioned.

Although permanent artillery never was mounted at the fort, the facility continued to be used when Confederate cavalry periodically threatened.

The Tourism Commission has hosted several Living History Days at the fort, Turner said, and several hundred students have participated in guided tours that featured period re-enactors.

Upcoming activities include a March Living History event for area schools.



boat blocker

Some 65 feet of the chain and anchor used to block Federal crafts on the Mississippi during the Civil War are on display at Columbus-Belmont State Park.

1925 landslide unearthed Columbus chain, anchor

The discovery started with a landslide.

In early December 1925, some two acres of a high bluff in Columbus slipped into the Mississippi River and exposed a nearly forgotten Civil War relic.

The Hickman County landslide uncovered about 60 feet of a gigantic chain and anchor that had been placed there in 1861 to stop Federal crafts headed south.

The chain, reportedly more than a mile long, was strung across the river by Confederate forces under the command of Gen. Lenoidas Polk and secured on the Kentucky side (Columbus) by a huge anchor. The chain then was floated across to the Missouri side (Belmont) on log pontoons and attached to two large Sycamore trees.

A capstan located between the shore and the trees allowed the chain to be raised or lowered.

The pontoon barges were

removed after the chain was attached at Belmont and the barrier was allowed to sink at points necessary to let Confederate supplies pass.

The deep sea anchor and chain came originally from the Washington Navy Yard and was transported by Southern sympathizers from the Mobile harbor when the war began.

Estimates of the anchor's weight range from four to six tons, and its flukes, or hooks, are nine feet from point to point. Each link of the chain is 11 inches long and six inches wide and weighs 20 pounds.

Ironically, the chain was not broken by any vessel or weapon, but by its own weight. The Union, however, did not discover that until early 1862.

It is thought the chain was broken at the edge of the Columbus bluff. Some 65 feet of the chain and the anchor are on display at Columbus-Belmont State Park.

Brown book honored

Retreat from Gettysburg: Lee, Logistics and the Pennsylvania Campaign, a book by Lexington attorney Kent Masterson Brown, has been honored by the Army Historical Foundation.

The Arlington, Va. Foundation named the book winner of its annual award for best achievement in writing on Army history from 1775-1898.

Published in 2005 by the University of North Carolina Press, the book details Gen. Robert E. Lee's retreat from Gettysburg after his July 1863 defeat to the Army of the Potomac.

Previously, Brown's book won the Bachelder-Coddington Literary Award as 2005's most outstanding original work on the Battle of Gettysburg. That award is presented annually by the Civil War Roundtable of Central New Jersey.

Brown was the first chairman of the Gettysburg National Military Park Advisory Commission and the Perryville Battlefield Commission.

He also is a member of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, which is charged with planning 2008 and 2009 events to mark the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth.

Lincoln, the 16th U.S. president, was born Feb. 12, 1809 near Hodgenville.

Worthwhile read on Morgan raids

Gorin, Betty J. *"Morgan Is Coming!" Confederate Raiders in the Heartland of Kentucky*, 453 pages, Harmony House Publishers. 2005

By Dr. Paul D. Rominger

The title in quotes rather than underlined repeats the alarming cry that often was heard in central Kentucky during the Civil War. John Hunt Morgan, of Lexington, had no formal military training. With his Confederate cavalry, from July 1861 until his death Sept. 4 1864, he preferred "hit and run" techniques. This book is not a biography of Morgan, but an account of his raids in the Kentucky counties of Taylor, Marion, Green, Adair and Cumberland.



Rominger

There are three areas that stand out from the reading.

The first is the excellent discussion of the Battle of Tebbs Bend on the Green River, July 4 1863. The meticulous planning and preparation of

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Union Col. Orlando Moore, an experienced officer, with a force of 266, defeated Morgan's force of at least 800, in three and a half hours of hard fighting.

Secondly, it is increasingly apparent in the reading that while the usual Civil War books are confined to major battles, many smaller encounters, certainly in Kentucky, kept the Civil War close at hand. The activities of the Home Guard and independent raiders added terror to the destruction.

Thirdly, it is evident that while Morgan was part of the Confederate military initiative, he never really concerned himself with unified action. He preferred to have his cavalry fight alone. Much like British commissions to pirates in earlier years, making them privateers for the Crown, Morgan's Confederate commission simply legalized the work of brigandage.

In the retelling of the War Between the States, Morgan adds color. This book is thoroughly researched and worth reading.

(Paul Rominger is secretary of the Battle of Richmond Association. He has a doctorate in constitutional history and, while living in Georgia, served two terms as a commissioner on the state Council on American Indian Affairs. He can be contacted at pdrominger@nescape.net.)



southern monument

The Tebbs Bend Confederate Monument and marble grave markers were dedicated in August 1999. The monument itself dates back to 1872.

Tebbs Bend memorial among state's earliest

One of the earliest Confederate memorials erected in Kentucky dates back to 1872.

That's when families of Confederate veterans from Taylor, Adair and Marion Counties obtained subscriptions totaling \$500 for a granite monument to honor the southerners who fell at the Battle of Tebbs Bend-Green River Bridge.

The Confederate victims were members of Gen. John Hunt Morgan's cavalry who were defeated in the battle July 4, 1863. Morgan, who was initiating what would become his Great Raid into Indiana and Ohio, saw his group of some 800 raiders soundly defeated by a 200-member Michigan infantry commanded by Federal Col. O.H. Moore.

Inscribed on the Tebbs Bend Cemetery monument are the words: "In memory of the Confederate soldiers of General Morgan's command who fell in battle of Green River Bridge,

July 4th, 1863. They have not been forgotten by their countrymen."

A stone wall was placed around the monument and Confederate graves at a memorial service in 1872. Although sources vary as to the number of Confederates buried in the cemetery, a Confederate Memorial Day event in 1911 numbered 24 bodies.

In the 1930s, the monument toppled and part of its top was lost. In 1940, a concrete base was constructed, significantly increasing the monument's height.

In 1988, the stone wall in front of the monument was lengthened and repaired and names of the soldiers who died there were researched by Betty J. Gorin Smith and funds were raised to provide marble grave markers.

The monument was entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1998.

