



# Save Historic Antietam Foundation

SEPTEMBER 2007

WWW.SHAFONLINE.COM

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### **Save Historic Antietam Foundation (SHAF)**

The mission of SHAF is the preservation and protection of historic sites within the Antietam valley that are related to the Battle of Antietam, the Maryland Campaign, or other Civil War activity in the region. We will accomplish our mission through public education, solicitation of funds, promotion of protective easements and advocacy.

SHAF was incorporated in 1986. It is chartered in Maryland as a non-profit corporation and is exempt from federal tax by Section 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible.

## President's Letter

Dear Members,

This is a great time for SHAF! We helped sponsor a very successful seminar on Antietam which was organized by the Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce and Antietam National Battlefield. There were over 40 speakers and tour guides and a large attendance of people from all over the country. Much new information was presented and new interpretations shared, and many new friends were made. This was the largest seminar ever done that was solely devoted to Antietam, and SHAF will receive funds from the benefit auction.

Coming up on September 15 is the Sharpsburg Heritage Day; see the schedule elsewhere in this issue. SHAF will have a booth at this festival and it is always a wonderful day for everyone in attendance. Of course this is Anniversary Weekend at the battlefield too, and there will be numerous special walks and programs there. Even better news is that a couple of new walking trails have been opened at the battlefield as well as lots of new fencing and scene restoration work.

Speaking of walking trails, SHAF has donated \$5,000 to the NPS for a new walking trail in the Sunken Road area. It is not yet fully operational, but with our donation it will be soon. In the near future a visitor will be able to walk an interpreted trail at North Woods and continue through the park all the way to the final attack of the Ninth Corps. These trails plus the clearing of brush and trees, the reforestation of the North Woods and fruit trees in the Piper Orchard will allow our visitors to see Antietam much like it was in 1862. The field has never looked better!

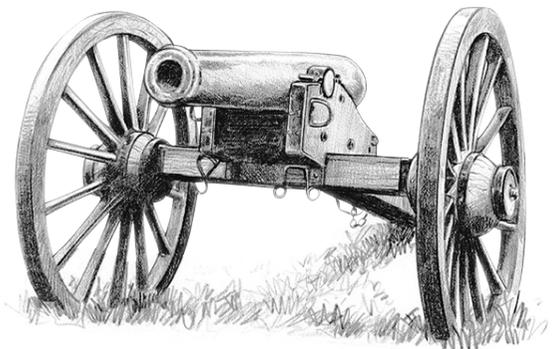
And speaking of battlefield restoration, SHAF has a Work Day coming up on November 10. The details are listed elsewhere in this newsletter, and we encourage everyone to join us in a day of very satisfying labor on the battlefield.

We are still hopeful of acquiring the Shepherdstown Ford property, and Senator Robert Byrd has introduced legislation to begin the study of Shepherdstown Ford for inclusion within the National Park Service. We'll need the funds to make this purchase possible, but we know we can count on you for help. The folks in the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association are making great strides, and we support and salute their efforts.

There are a couple of other projects in the works, but they need to remain off the record for now. If they come to fruition, you'll find them very exciting. As I said, these are great times for SHAF and we're happy you're with us. If you agree with me, why not share this newsletter with a friend? We can always use more help.

Thanks for everything!

Tom Clemens  
President, SHAF



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Edward C. Pierce, Company B 3<sup>rd</sup> Maine Infantry

By Joseph Stahl

The photograph shown is identified as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Edward C. Pierce based on what is written on the front of the images. As can be seen in the Photograph Edward wrote "Your friend E. C. Pierce 3<sup>rd</sup> Me." The image is a full standing view of an officer holding his hat and wearing a sash and sword standing in front of a backdrop and next to a table. On the baseboard can be seen the word "BRADY". The CDV is a Brady from Washington which can also be seen on the front of the image although the "B" has been trimmed off at some point. There is nothing printed or written on the reverse of the image. At the National Archives the service records of Lt. Pierce's were copied and reviewed.

According to Edward Pierce's records he mustered into Company B on August 8, 1861 as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. Lt. Pierce's status is shown as "not stated" for the Sept/Oct 1861 bi-monthly return. On the Nov/Dec 61 return is the note "Detailed to act as Signal Officer in U.S. Signal Corps by Special Orders from HQ AP recd Dec 24, 1861. Since Edward was assigned to the Signal Corps in December, 1861 the image was probably taken in the fall of 1861 since he has identified himself with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maine not the Signal Corps.

Edward remained assigned to the Signal Corps until his muster out on June 28, 1864. While he was assigned to the signal corps Edward would be present at some of the most important events in the history of Army of the Potomac. Edward was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. On May 1, 1862. On September 17, 1862 he was on the field at Antietam as a signal man. In fact he is included in several of the most well know images taken by Alexander Gardner on the field. In Antietam The Photographic Legacy of America's Bloodiest Day by William A. Frassanito the author talks about the photographs taken of the Signal Station on Elk Ridge. On page 75 is the following quote "Views 3a and 3b show the (signal) station from an identical camera position. The flagmen in both views are believed to be facing westward, into the afternoon sun and toward the battlefield. The man seated on top of the tower to the left in 3a is the leader of the detachment, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Edward C. Pierce, who was transferred to the Signal Corps from the Third Maine Infantry in December 1861."

Shortly after this action he was assigned to 6<sup>th</sup> Corps Headquarters on Nov 13, 1862. He would remain with the 6<sup>th</sup> Corps for the rest of his service. Later in the spring of 1863 he was promoted again to Captain on February 25, 1863. After this Captain Pierce would find himself at one of the most famous locations in the Civil War. He would be stationed on Little Round Top on July 3, 1863. He would serve with distinction and be offered a commission in the Signal Corps in the fall of 1863. Captain Pierce would decline the appointment on September 24, 1863. He stated that he wished to remain an "Acting Signal Officer" so that he could go home when his three year term of service was up in 1864. Also he requested that he be allowed to remain with the Signal Corps and not be returned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maine Infantry. This was allowed and Captain Pierce was ordered to Augusta Maine on June 14, 1864 to allow his muster out with the regiment on June 28, 1864.



# SHAF Donates \$5,000 to Antietam National Battlefield for the Restoration of the Piper Farm Lane

*NPS Press Release, August 17, 2007*

*- This donation will allow the National Park Service to begin work on this restoration project several years ahead of schedule. Work will include repairing several areas which have suffered from severe erosion, installing erosion control devices, construction of a safe tread and installation of historically accurate fences. Upon completion the Piper Farm Lane will become a part of the expanding Antietam National Battlefield Trail System and will be open to the public.*

*According to Superintendent Howard: "The Save Historic Antietam Foundation has been an active and dedicated partner to the National Park Service in protecting and preserving the Sharpsburg battlefield. They are to commended for this gift to the people of the United States."*

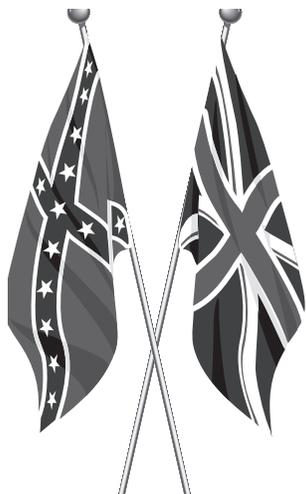


*Left to right: ANB Natural Resources Ranger Lindsey Donelson, ANB Superintendent John Howard, SHAF President Tom Clemens.*

The board of Directors of SHAF feels that advancing the status of this trail will speed the restoration of the historic scene in the middle of the battlefield, and allow more visitor access to less-visited portions of the site. We are delighted to make this donation on behalf of our membership, knowing that they will be pleased to connect the various walking trails to allow a visitor to walk from North Woods to the Final Attack field and really see the terrain of the Antietam. We thank our donors for their generosity and dedication.



**SHAF's new and improved website  
is now up and running.  
Go to [www.shaf.org](http://www.shaf.org) for news  
on the foundation,  
the battlefield, the town,  
and other Civil War sites.**



# Sharpsburg

## HERITAGE DAY

### Sept. 15, 2001

9:00	Rohrersville Band at Music Tent
9:30	SHAF lecture series – John Schildt – Christ Reformed Church
10:00	Antietam Battle Hospitals of Sharpsburg Tour-guided tour by John Nelson.
10:00	Wildcat Regiment Band Concert at Music Tent
10:30	Lecture at Town Hall – Ted Alexander “Citizens of Sharpsburg during Battle of Antietam”
11:00	2nd Maryland Fife and Drum Concert at Music Tent
12:00	Remembrance Ceremony & Battle of the Bands on S. Mechanic Street - MD Sons of Conf. Vets Color Guard, Rev. Catlett and Rev. Michael, Wildcats and 2nd MD
1:00	SHAF lecture series – John Nelson – Christ Reformed Church “The Sublimest Spectacle That Mortals Ever Gaze Upon-How Newspapers Covered The Battle of Antietam.”
1:30	Antietam Women’s Ensemble concert
2:00	Antietam Battle Hospitals of Sharpsburg Walking Tour-guided tour by John Nelson.
2:00	Wildcat Regiment Band Concert at Music Tent
2:00	SHAF lecture series – Tom Clemens – Christ Reformed Church “Why Sharpsburg: Lee’s Intentions in the Maryland Campaign”
2:30	Lecture at Town Hall – Sandy Izer, “Chaplain’s Mount Pleasant”
3:00	2nd Maryland Fife and Drum Concert at Tent
3:00	SHAF lecture series - TBA, 16th Connecticut – Christ Reformed Church
5 – 7	Pig Roast Picnic Dinner at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main Street Tickets: \$10 adults, kids 12 and under \$4 - call Cindy Weaver 301-432-5463
7:00	Alley walk with the 2nd Maryland Fifes and Drums – meet at the music tent
7:30	Jimmy Brown & Friends Concert “American Hymns/Appalachian Hoedown” St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main Street

## New Members

DONALD S. BERRY  
JOHN BROTHERHOOD  
THOMAS BUCKLEY  
BINGHAMTON CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE  
KEN CARLSON  
EDWARD K. CASSEDY  
MIKE CHANCEY  
LOUIS & REGINA CLARK  
TIMOTHY DUNBAR  
THOMAS & RITA DUNN  
ROBERT B. ELDER  
JOHN FRYE

MARTY GANE  
OLD COLONY CIVIL WAR  
ROUNDTABLE  
CRAIG HOWELL  
DAVID LANGBART  
BALTIMORE CWRT  
BLAKE A. MAGNER  
EDITH P MAYER  
SHARON MURRAY  
JANET PEASE  
LINDSAY PETTUS  
MARK SALTUS

WARREN SHEPHERD  
ROBERT SHROUDS  
RONALD E. SLACK  
MORRIS & CAROL SOLOMON  
DONALD STRIPLING  
BOB VAN NUYS  
ROANOKE CIVIL WAR  
ROUNDTABLE  
RICHARD MONTGOMERY HIGH  
SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES  
DEPARTMENT



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## SHAF Workday at Antietam Battlefield November 10, 2007

We will be engaged in scene restoration projects at the park. We may be planting some more trees in the Piper Orchard, and other possibilities are clearing brush/trees and building fences. Please try to arrive by 9:00 in the parking lot in front of the Visitor's Center. If you arrive later the NPS can tell you where we are. Wear clothing appropriate for the work and weather, - boots and gloves are good ideas. Bring water or drinks. We will cancel if the weather is bad, but call 301-432-2996 if you are unsure. If you have students who need volunteer hours, we can provide a letter certifying their contributions. Please reply on our new website ([go to www.shaf.org](http://www.shaf.org) and click on "Contact Us") if you plan to attend so the NPS can plan work according to our numbers.

*See you there!*



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**Save Historic Antietam Foundation  
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