



# Save Historic Antietam Foundation

December 2006

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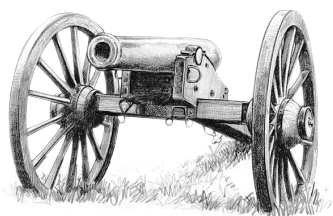
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### Save Historic Antietam Foundation (SHAF)

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) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible.



## Please Remember the Save Historic Foundation in Your Annual Giving

As our twentieth year draws to a close, the directors of the Save Historic Antietam Foundation wish to express our gratitude to you, our members, for your generosity and support over the past two decades. As board member Dennis Frye outlined in our last newsletter, fortune has certainly smiled on SHAF and brought success to our efforts. But the key to all of SHAF's good fortune has been your support.

And we continue to need your support, for much remains to be done. There is more precious land to acquire and more scenic and cultural resource restoration projects are needed to keep Antietam National Battlefield the best preserved and interpreted battlefield in the country. It is a daunting task. But the obstacles will be overcome. Sharpsburg is a special place, and it must stay that way.

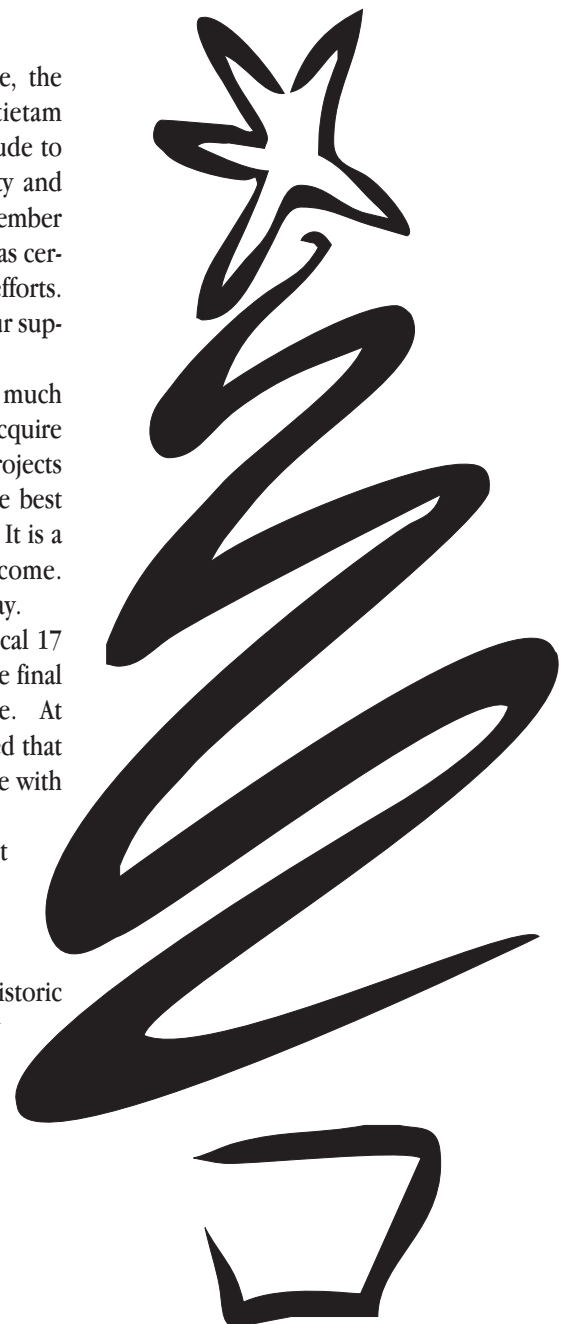
Currently, SHAF is negotiating to buy a critical 17 acres of the Shepherdstown Battlefield. At that site the final battle of the Antietam Campaign took place. At Shepherdstown, Confederate General A.P. Hill boasted that his attack made the surface of the Potomac River "blue with the bodies of the Union dead."

The sacrifices of the men of 1862 should not be forgotten, and with your help, SHAF will be around for another wonderfully tumultuous twenty years—and more.

On behalf of the board of the Save Historic Antietam Foundation, I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

*Tom Clemens,*

President SHAF



# Sharpsburg Heritage Day



The Sharpsburg Heritage Society's annual Sharpsburg Heritage Day was held on Saturday, Sept. 16, 2006, with vendor and various other booths occupying about two blocks of Mechanic Street just off the square.

The perfume of kettle corn (a fixture of any 19th century themed event in the US – did they even have kettle corn then?), Lion's Club beef brisket, and crab cake sandwiches, and the melodies of the Union Wildcat Regiment band and the Confederate 2nd Maryland Fife and Drum corps filled the air most of the day.

SHAF set up its tent just outside the door to Nutter's Ice Cream Parlor, which proved a distraction to board members manning the tables throughout the day. Visitors to the SHAF tent received information about our organization, bought books or SHAF logo merchandise, became members or made donations. Assisting the public were SHAF board members Mark Hudson, Don Macreadie, Bill Maharay, John Schildt and Harry Smeltzer. At the end of the day, SHAF tallied about \$450 in sales and contributions.

In addition to the food and music, attendees were treated to lectures at the Town Hall, Churches and Stone Houses walking tours, and a pig roast at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. A highlight of the day was an evening tour of the alleys paralleling Main St. led by the 2nd Maryland Fife and Drum corps.

There was plenty to do and see in the Sharpsburg area with the 144th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam falling on the same weekend. Visitors to the park could take in a commemoration ceremony with ANBP superintendent John Howard at the Dunker Church on Friday evening, and follow that up with a lecture by historian Lance Herdegen in the visitor's center.

On Saturday evening, a torchlight tour at the battlefield featured reenactors leading visitors past a series of vignettes of various incidents of the battle. Tourists seemed most moved by the recreation of a field hospital in the Dunker Church. SHAF board member Kevin Rawlings portrayed an irate farmer attempting to get reimbursed from Army representatives for damages incurred on his property.

Ranger walks of the battlefield are a staple at this time of year, and participants in ranger Keith Snyder's "Opening Guns of Battle" tour on Sunday morning were in for a treat.



A steady stream of visitors stopped by SHAF's tent.

The field was covered in fog at 7 A.M. when the walk kicked off from the North Woods, eerily mimicking the conditions that prevailed 144 years to the day and hour before.

A slight detour into the Miller Cornfield, and it was déjà vu all over again. Later, ranger Brian Boracz led a larger group on a walking tour of "The Attack and Defense of the Sunken Lane". During this walk, rising temperatures and bright sunshine burned off the last of the fog.

Next year's Heritage Day will fall on the 145th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam. Make plans to spend that weekend in Sharpsburg; if this year was any indication, there will be few dull moments.

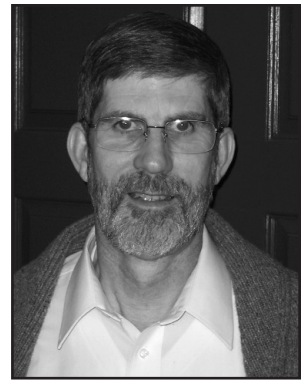


2nd Maryland Fife and Drum corps marches through Sharpsburg.

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## BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: BILL MAHARAY

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Bill Maharay's fascination with the places where history happened began in his youth—a characteristic that he shares with virtually all of his fellow directors on the Save Historic Antietam Foundation board. However Bill was fortunate enough to have a grandfather whose farm was located (in part) on the site of George Washington's New Windsor cantonment in upstate New York -- the place where Washington moved his army at the end of the Revolutionary War in 1782 and also where Washington instituted the Badge of Merit (now the Purple Heart). Bill professes a "strong love of history," a love that obviously springs from visits to New Windsor as a child. He attributes his passion for Civil War history, historic structures, and antiques to his parents. Bill's mother, a history major, was one of Gettysburg College's first women graduates. His dad is a longtime student of Civil War history who presently is writing his fourth book on the subject; Mr. Maharay's latest enterprise documents the history of the "other" General Grant, Lewis A. of Vermont.

Having grown up near Washington, D.C., Bill Maharay attended graduate school at the American University, where he earned an M.S. in accounting. In addition to receiving an M.A. in international relations from the University of Chicago, Bill is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute and the Senior Executive program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He also has taught at several colleges in the Washington area. At present Bill is Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services at the U. S. Department of Energy; he has worked in the department for over twenty-five years, serving in a variety of headquarters and field positions. In his current role, Bill is responsible for the conduct of audits pertaining to maintenance and enhancement of the safety, reliability, and performance of our nation's nuclear weapons stockpile. His duties also include review of the Department of Energy's environmental restoration program and its activities in the fields of science and energy. Before joining the Office of Inspector General in the mid-1980s, Bill was with the Department's Office of Controller for five years; he also has worked in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs at the U.S. Treasury Department.

As a professional, Bill Maharay has served on many interagency working groups and forums linked to the different audit processes and activities in the Federal government. He has served on the Federal Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee as a representative of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency. He is currently vice-chair of the Federal Audit Executive Council. For his work, Bill has been the recipient of several professional awards, among them the President's Meritorious Rank Award in 2005.

Bill makes the commute to Washington, D.C. from his home in Keedysville, Maryland. He moved to Washington County right after graduate school and, in 1979, purchased a circa-1790 timber-frame and log farmhouse on the banks of Antietam Creek. The site is just south of the Upper (Hitt) Bridge, one of three such stone structures—including the Lower (a.k.a. Burnside) Bridge—used by troops in 1862 to reach the Antietam battlefield area. What Bill did not know when he bought the house was the fact that it served as headquarters for two Union generals--Joseph Mansfield and George Meade--before and after the battle. In addition, Bill's house was a major field hospital, with the current dining room put into service as an operating theatre. A number of soldiers also were interred on his land, though subsequently moved to Antietam National Cemetery. Bill notes that the house was in "deplorable" condition at the time of purchase; but, with his family's assistance, he restored the property to its original state.

Unfortunately, fire devastated the house's second and third stories in 1989. Undeterred, Bill Maharay worked with numerous contractors over the next two years to restore it a second time. That labor of love obviously was worth it, for he happily states that the structure "now stands a proud reminder of the past and those...(who) lived and died at the Cost-Hitt house, as the property is known."

Bill has been involved with SHAF for many years, serving as treasurer for most of the organization's existence. Besides his enthusiasm for the Civil War and historic preservation, he is an avid collector of antiques. Currently he is studying early tall-case clockmakers of Washington County, Maryland, with a focus on the works of George Woltz, who was both a clockmaker and a cabinetmaker. Bill also has a wood-working shop in one of his property's outbuildings, where he enjoys, as he says, "fixing up treasures for friends and family." The consistent participation of a dedicated and talented individual like Bill Maharay has been a key factor in SHAF's successful activism over the past twenty years.





# SHAF Workday Report

The day was unusually warm for November, and the work was as satisfying as usual. On Saturday, November 11, SHAF members cleared brush on a ridge west of Burnside's Bridge, high ground used by both Confederate and Union artillery batteries. The sight will be part of a new interpretive trail on the southern end of the battlefield, not far from the Otto farm lane.

Instead of blue vs. gray, NPS rangers attacked a stand of trees with sharp chainsaws while SHAF volunteers dragged the casualties away to an ever growing brush pile.

Temperatures soared to near 70 under sunny skies and sweatshirts were soon shucked as the draggers hustled to keep up with the carnage created by roaring Husquavarnas. By the end of the morning, a good 20 feet of trees had been cleared away. All participants agreed that it was a fine way to spend Veteran's Day.



Board Member Mary Abroe takes out her frustration on battlefield vegetation.



Before the battle.



After the fight—A Good 20 Yards of trees cleared away.

# Support SHAF

## Order Form and Membership Form

Qty.	Item		Price	Total
	SHAF Logo Golf Shirt	Size: M L XL	\$20.00	
	SHAF Logo T-Shirt	Size: M L XL	\$15.00	
	SHAF Logo Khaki Hat		\$20.00	
	SHAF Logo Tote Bag		\$30.00	
	5 1/2" x 4 1/4" SHAF notecards		\$30.00	
	Antietam Screensaver (22 pictures with music)	CD-ROM	\$10.00	
	America's Civil War Antietam 140th Special Issue		\$5.00	
	Dollar\$ and Sense of the Battlefield Preservation	Paperback	\$14.95	
	Drums Along the Antietam	Paperback	\$16.95	
	Hail To The Chief	Paperback	\$6.00	
	Long Line of Splendor	Hardcover	\$24.95	
	Mount Airy: The Grove Farmstead	Paperback	\$7.00	
	Too Afraid To Cry	Hardcover	\$24.95	
	As Grain Falls Before The Reaper	CD-ROM	\$20.00	

\*Add \$.75 for shipping and handling for the notecards.

Add \$2.00 for shipping and handling, per clothing or book item

Add \$4.00 for shipping and handling of art prints

Free shipping on orders over \$75.00

**Sub Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**S & H** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT SEND CASH. *Make checks payable to:* SHAF, P.O. Box 550, Sharpsburg, MD 21782

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

### Save Historic Antietam Foundation

P.O. Box 550, Sharpsburg, MD 21782

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check one:* \_\_\_\_\_ Endowment Fund

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership Renewal

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

#### Levels of Membership:

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Contributor - Up to \$25

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Defender - \$26 to \$100

\_\_\_\_\_ Protector - over \$100

# SHAF would like to thank our recent donors.

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**P.O. Box 550**  
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*Happy  
Holidays!*