



# THE GILMOR BLADE

Those who allow the surrender of their history,  
also surrender their future!



Official Newsletter of

THE COL. H.W.GILMOR CAMP, No. 1388, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

March, 2017

## March 8 meeting features "Gettysburg: Day One"

The Col. Harry W. Gilmor Camp #1388 will hold its next meeting March 8, at 7:30 PM at the Baltimore County Historical Society, 9811 Van Buren Lane, Cockeysville, MD 21030.

May 13, 2017 is a work day at Confederate Hill so that we can get ready for Confederate Memorial Day on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will meet at Confederate Hill at 9 a.m. We appreciate whatever time you can give us on May 13<sup>th</sup>, but the more hands, the quicker the work.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on November 4, 2017 for the Annual Gilmor Candlelight Dinner. More information to come.

Our guest speaker this month, Frank Arminger, is a native of the Baltimore

area. He was born in South Baltimore and grew up in northern Anne Arundel County. He currently resides in Timonium with his wife Susan. Frank earned a BA degree in Business and Industrial Engineering from The Johns Hopkins University, and is currently self-employed as a health care antifraud consultant specializing in Medicare and Medicaid fraud detection and prevention.

Frank is a long time Civil War buff dating back to the Centennial celebration. He is particularly interested in the Battle of Gettysburg and has visited the battlefield many times over the past 50+ years. Frank is the Editor of the *Maryland Line*, the newsletter of the Maryland Military Historical Society (MDMHS). He is also the President of the Curtis Vickery Round See "March 8 meeting," p.7

**"The Charge"**  
*"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."*

## Minutes: Camp meeting February 8, 2017

The meeting was opened at 7:32 p.m. by Commander Michael K. Williams. Commander Williams offered the Invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and the Salute to the Confederate Flag. Commander Williams read The Charge of Gen. Stephen Dill Lee. Fourteen members and guests were in attendance. Commander Williams welcomed several guests.

Commander Williams swore in Compatriot Gene Leasure as 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander Leasure swore in other Camp officers:  
Jeremy Cook - Historian

Michael Williams – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander  
John Ross - Chaplain  
Elliott Cummings - Adjutant  
Carroll Holzer - Judge Advocate

Our guest speaker, Dan Toomey, gave a very good talk on the "Civil War on the Eastern Shore."

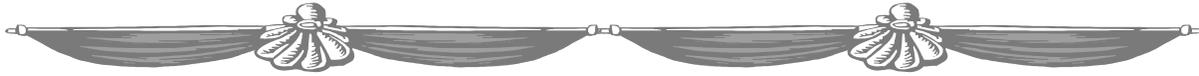
BREAK

Adjutant Elliott Cummings summarized the Minutes of the January 13, 2016 meeting.

MOTION: To wave the Treasurers Report. PASSED  
See "Camp Minutes," p. 6

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March, 2017

*Focus on Irish Americans' service to the South:*  
**33<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Co. E, "The Emerald Guard"**

From  
<http://33rdvacoe.yolasite.com/emerald-guard-history.php>

By Brian Swidal

**The Emerald Guard** was formed in and around the town of New Market during May and early June of 1861. It was organized by a thirty-four year old Shenandoah County native named Marion Marye Sibert. and as its name implied was formed from the Irish laborers that worked in the Valley when the War began. The company would become was among the most colorful and volatile companies of the famed "Stonewall Brigade". "In their adopted sector," one historian would write, "the Sons of Erin did not mesh easily with their conservative neighbors, most of whom were of German and Scotch-Irish descent. The Celts' predilection for hard liquor and their affinity for world-class brawl-ing at the least provocation engen-dered a definite air of notoriety."

(Reidenbaugh, Lowell, 33<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Infantry, p. 2)

**REASONS FOR ENLISTMENT**  
Many of the Irishmen who joined the unit in May and June of 1861 were thought to be laborers who had been engaged on the construction of the Manassas Gap Railroad. Many of the Irishmen who found employment in Virginia migrated from Northern cities, to escape persecution by a growing anti-Irish anti-papist movement fueled by the New England nativist movement referred to as *Know-nothingism*. Virginia as well as most of the Southern States



Image of flag from <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com>

rejected the Know-nothings and openly encouraged Irishmen to settle and work below the Mason-Dixon line. As a result of this, it was not surprising that when war came, many Irishmen living in the South were quick to defend their new homes. In reference to the Emerald Guard, the aforementioned newspaper editor surmised, "Virginia was the first to hurl back the tide of Know-Nothingism, and maintain the rights of Irishmen, they now gratefully and willingly will lay down their lives, if necessary, to sustain, protect and vindicate her rights."

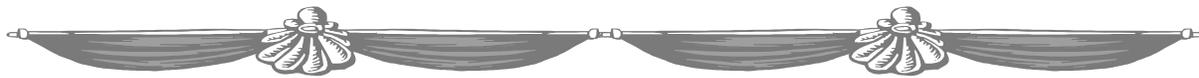
**FIRST MANASSAS**

The Emerald Guard fought its first battle at Manassas on July 21, 1861. At the height of the battle, it was Jackson's first brigade, and more specifically, the undersized regiment of Colonel Cummings that turned the tide of battle with a well-timed charge against an exposed artillery battery. Though the Thirty-third Virginia succeeded in capturing the guns, the number of men that made the charge (only about 250) were unable to maintain possession and were forced to retreat. The charge had halted the steady advance of the

Union Army up to that point, and precipitated further charges by Jackson's other regiments. By day's end, the actions of the Thirty-third led to the complete route of the Union Army, and played a major role in immortalizing the brigade. From that point forward, the successful stand on Henry House Hill would earn the Brigade and its leader the name "Stonewall." The cost of immortality for Cummings regiment was high. Of the 450 men who were present at the battle, the 33<sup>rd</sup> would suffer 43 killed and 140 wounded; The Emerald Guard, having participated in the battle, suffered 15 casualties including most of the company officers and NCO's. Captain Sibert was shot through both legs; Lt. Thomas C. Fitzgerald and 2d Lt. John Ireland were also wounded; in addition, Sgt. Michael Gavagan was wounded and Corp. John O. Sullivan was killed.

**HANGING ROCK**

On January 7, 1862, While Jackson advanced against Federal outposts at Bath and Romney, disaster struck the outpost at Hanging Rock. On the evening of the 6<sup>th</sup> an expedition of 2000 Federals with six pieces of artillery advanced against the Confederate position, which was defended by Cutshaw's two guns manned by the Emerald Guard, and 700 militia. The Federals completely surprised the rebels, putting the entire command to flight and capturing both artillery pieces. Cutshaw would recall that the Federal "advance [came] in with part of our pickets. Instead of attempting a See "The Emerald Guard," p. 3



## The Emerald Guard *Continued from p. 2*

passage of the gap the enemy hurried immediately to the more accessible ridge on our right, and were there as soon as our militia, and with a volley scattered them." Having no infantry support, the Irish artillerists were either "shot down or put to flight, and the pieces captured."

(Allan, William, *History of the Campaign of Gen. T.J. (Stonewall) Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia*, p. 24 note) Despite this report, only one member of the Emerald Guard was killed in the action and no others reported wounded.

### SHARPSBURG (ANTIETAM)

Continuing their advance into Maryland, the Brigade now only numbering about 200 men, would fight just as tenaciously suffering 3 killed and 17 more wounded. As the battle would result in a draw, the Confederate army retreated back across the Potomac and Jackson's army settled in around the lower Valley at which time a number of men, who had been wounded, released from Northern Prisons or returned from being AWOL filled up the ranks. By the end of October, the regiment was mustered and paid once more. The Emerald Guard now officially numbered 1 Lieutenant, 3 sergeants and 21 privates present for duty. Seven privates were listed as recovering from wounds, 8 privates had officially been discharged, 1 had been on detached duty, 5 had been killed since the beginning of the Valley Campaign, and 2 were listed as having deserted. Besides these, 42 men were still listed as AWOL. In addition, 2 conscripts were accounted for—1 present for duty and the other absent wounded.

The appearance of the company upon returning was listed as follows: Clothing, indifferent; arms, mixed; accoutrements, indifferent; discipline and instruction, indifferent; and the company's overall military appearance was "as good as circumstances permit."

### CHANCELLORSVILLE

At the beginning of May, 1863, a new Federal General, Joseph Hooker led the Army of the Potomac across the Rapahannock while making a demonstration in front of Fredericksburg. Over the next three days, the Battle of Chancellorsville would take place. In the thick of the fight on May 3 was the Stonewall Brigade. The Emerald Guard having, having grown little over the winter months, suffered heavily. Capt. Bedinger, taking a moment during a lull in the fighting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, wrote:

"Yesterday we fought the most terrible battle of this war, attacking the enemy in his chosen positions and driving him at every point, our Brigade behaved magnificently, but lost very heavily... Today we are in line and throwing up breast works, whether we will attack or the enemy retreat further, I cannot say, I'm pretty certain of more fighting. Thank God I am spared to write you this note, tho half of my little company were killed or wounded..."

(Capt. George R. Bedinger, *Letter to sister, Virginia*, May 4th 1863)

### GETTYSBURG

Within fifteen days, the 33<sup>rd</sup> had crossed the Potomac and were encamped around Chambersburg when the order came for the Second Corps

to converge on the Pennsylvania town of Gettysburg. Arriving late in the evening of July 1, the Brigade spent much of the 2<sup>nd</sup> day skirmishing on the far Confederate left. It would not be until the next day that the 33<sup>rd</sup> would see real fighting. At 3 a. m. on the morning of the 3rd, The regiment was aroused and marched off with the rest of the Brigade towards the enemy position atop Culp's Hill. After daybreak, the regiment advanced in line of battle towards the enemy who was "strongly intrenched in a most advantageous position." The regiment advanced up the slopes of the hill advancing "in intervals" as the men took cover behind rocks and trees as they advanced. Although the regiment exhausted its ammunition within an hour or two, at least part of the 33<sup>rd</sup> remained engaged for almost five hours, as partial supplies were received upon the field. During this portion of the fighting, Captain Bedinger of the Emerald Guard was killed while advancing towards the enemy. Captain Golladay, in temporary command of the regiment after the battle would write that Bedinger's body had fallen perhaps the closest to the enemy's lines. Sometime around noon, the regiment was withdrawn from the slopes, reorganized and replenished with ammunition. The regiment was then moved several hundred yards to the right, and another advance was made upon the enemy. The fighting was intense and lasted only a half hour or so before the regiment was withdrawn again and marched to the rear for a short rest until mid afternoon. Again, the regiment was *See "The Emerald Guard," p. 4*



## Are Confederate Monuments a Problem?

By Philip Leigh  
From *Civil War News*, March 2017

According to a May 5, 2016 *Washington Post* article, Confederate monuments are a “problem” that needs to be fixed. Nonetheless, destroying Confederate monuments—or “reinterpreting” them with qualifying remarks cast in bronze—under the guise of political correctness is a bad idea for three reasons.

First, the history of the South’s evolving society is made more apparent by adding new shrines to honor more recent leaders than by destroying or “reinterpreting” old ones. Moreover, the region has independently demonstrated an inclination to do so without any moral instruction from *The Washington Post*.

There are, for example, memorials to Martin Luther King in Atlanta, Memphis, Montgomery and Austin, as well as countless MLK-named roads and schools across the South. ... statues to the nine black teenagers who integrated Little Rock’s Central High School in 1957 were erected on the grounds of the Arkansas state capitol in 2007. The same grounds include two Confederate statues put up in 1905 and 1913, respectively: one for the ordinary Rebel soldier and one honoring the women of the Confederacy.

Second, as Alexander Dumas (whose mother was a slave) put it, “The difference between patriotism and treason is a matter of dates.” Similarly, qualifications for political correctness fluctuate. Consider, for example, the possibility that future

feminists might demand monuments to Martin Luther King be destroyed because he was persistently unfaithful to his wife. Consider also that a future hypothetical misogynistic society might demand that Arkansas remove the statue to Confederate women, which was erected without any edification from the modern feminism.

Third, condemning Confederate monuments because of the atavistic racial attitudes among the people of that time begs the question of whether the policy should also apply to statues for Northern historical figures. Consider the Lincoln Memorial. A couple of months before he announced the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln said, “See ‘Confederate monuments,’” p.5

### The Emerald Guard *Continued from p.3*

aroused, reequipped and marched to a position farther to the right of the line. From this time until nightfall the regiment was only engaged in skirmishing after which the day’s survivors quietly retired. Upon the field would be left many whom Golladay considered the “flower of the regiment.” (Official Records, Chapter XXXIX THE GETTYSBURG CAMPAIGN, Numbers 494. Reports of Captain J. B. Golladay, Thirty-third Virginia Infantry. JULY 16, 1863, pp. 530-531) Besides Captain Bedinger, the company would lose five other men wounded in action.

#### WILDERNESS / SPOTTSYLVANIA

The ill-fated Spring of 1864 would begin with news of Union General U.S. Grant’s crossing of the Rapidan River. General Lee responded by maneuvering his ever-shrinking army to meet Grant on ground of his own choosing. On May 4, the Army of Northern Virginia and Army of the Potomac collided in the tangled landscape that sprawled between Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Spottsylvania Court House known as “The Wilderness.” Fighting raged amidst the broken terrain from the 4<sup>th</sup> to

the 6<sup>th</sup> of May. Less than a hundred men remained, and in the Emerald Guard, as previously mentioned numbered eight. Around 11 AM on the 5<sup>th</sup> the regiment became heavily engaged, taking several casualties. One private of Company “E” was wounded. Several days later, Lt. Doyle would be captured leaving the remaining men of the company without a commander. (As a matter of interest, Lt. Doyle would be sent as a POW to Fort Delaware, where on August 20, he was ordered as one of 600 Confederate officers to Charleston Harbor to be used as a human shield and subjected to poor living conditions. He would become one of the “Immortal 600.”

#### THE END OF THE WAR

What was left of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Virginia and the Stonewall Brigade would be incorporated with the remnants of several other brigades... As Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to General Grant at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865, only 18 men were present from the 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment. Of that number, no members of the Emerald Guard were present.

## A Painstaking Mission to Save Atlanta's Colossal Civil War Painting

From <https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/02/08/us/a-painstaking-mission-to-save-atlantas-colossal-civil-war-painting.html?referer=android-app%3A%2F%2Fcom.google.android.googlequicksearchbox%2Fhttps%2Fwww.google.com>

By ALAN BLINDER

ATLANTA — What, exactly, do you do with a 130-year-old work of art, mythmaking and Civil War history that is longer than a foot-ball field, more than 40 feet tall and urgently in need of a new home?

This city is finding out. After decades of deepening disrepair and disinterest in the painting commonly known as the Atlanta Cyclorama, workers this month are moving the panorama as part of a \$35 million plan to rescue and maintain a titanic, deteriorating example of an art form that has mostly disappeared.

Saving “The Battle of Atlanta,” which is among the largest oil paintings in the world, has proved to be an undertaking of remarkable com-



“The Battle of Atlanta” is among the largest oil paintings in the world. Philanthropists have donated \$35 million to help relocate, restore and maintain the 1886 painting over the next 75 years. Courtesy of the Atlanta History Center

plexity. It is rife with logistical tests, engineering quandaries, curatorial challenges and political and racial sensitivities that linger more than 150 years after Gen. William T. Sherman’s military campaign here. Yet after taxpayers spent years supporting an imperiled painting in a building troubled by leaks and temperature fluctuations, formal opposition to the effort, which is privately funded by multiple philanthropists, is strikingly scarce.

“The fact that this painting has survived when so many others were left out to mold and rot and get burned up and whatever is nothing short of a miracle,” said Gordon L. Jones, the senior military historian and curator at the Atlanta History Center, which reached a license agreement with the City of Atlanta to display the cyclorama.

“Everything that we know about Civil War memory, all of those stories, can in some way be described by using this painting as an example,” Dr. Jones said.

### Confederate monuments

cipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862, Lincoln met at the White House with African-American leaders and urged that blacks leave the country. He even arranged congressional funding for their emigration.

Addressing his guests Lincoln said: “You and we are of different races. We have existing between us broader differences than exist between almost any other two races. Whether it is right or wrong I need not discuss, but this physical difference is a great disad-

Indeed. “The Battle of Atlanta,” prepared in Milwaukee by a team of German artists, was completed in 1886, when cycloramas — massive panoramic projects intended to give viewers the sensation of standing in the depicted landscape — were a leading form of entertainment, and the colossal works traveled the country. During its tour of the North, “Atlanta” was widely interpreted as depicting the 1864 struggle here for what it was: a decisive and pivotal victory for the Union that left an estimated 12,140 people dead, most of them Confederate troops.

Then the exhibition moved to the South, and in November 1892, The Atlanta Constitution newspaper printed a masterstroke of spin: an advertisement that said the cyclorama’s scene was the “only Confederate victory ever painted.” The painting swiftly attracted large, and almost exclusively white, audiences and was donated to the city around the turn of the century.

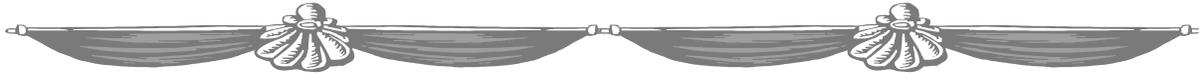
See “Cyclorama restoration,” p. 6

*Continued from p. 4*

vantage to us both, as I think your race suffer very greatly, many of them by living among us, while ours suffer from your presence.

In a word we suffer on each side. If this is admitted, it affords a reason at least why we should be separated.”

Adding new monuments, for more recent admired leaders, while keeping the old ones in place provides a tangible record of how our society evolved. It will be lost by tearing down the old ones.



**Cyclorama restoration** *Continued from p. 5*

But the crowds dwindled, in part because motion pictures increasingly replaced cycloramas as entertainment, and generations of decline began. A major restoration that concluded in 1982 bought the Atlanta Cyclorama more time before the painting’s quality and appeal began to wane again. In recent years, elementary school-teachers leading rite-of-passage field trips were among the most loyal visitors to the cyclorama.

“I remember that when I took my permission slip home, my mom and my dad had a conversation,” said Mayor Kasim Reed of Atlanta, 47, who is black. “I remember it not being a typical permission slip that was quickly signed.”

But it fell to Mr. Reed, who will leave office next year, to help solve the contemporary riddle of what to do with the cyclorama, which black residents, in an earlier time, were allowed to view only one day a month. The city announced the agreement with the Atlanta History Center in 2014. The center will display the 19th-century relic on its 33-acre campus, located in an upscale area of Atlanta that includes the Governor’s Mansion and some of the city’s finest restaurants.

The plan comes — somewhat serendipitously, its organizers said — at a time of scattered efforts in the South to move beyond the traditional Old South narrative surrounding the Civil War. In 2014, for example, the Georgia Historical Society dedicated a marker that sought to undermine what it described as “popular

myth” about Sherman’s cruelty during the war.

“It helps to bring some emphasis to why what happened here was important and why it’s not your grandfather’s Civil War anymore,” Dr. Jones said of present-day scholarship and presentation of the war.

Mr. Reed said he was not bothered by the painting’s continuing prominence and possible resurgence.

“As a black person, I’m quite comfortable with it because I know how the end of the movie turned out,” the mayor said. “The right result was reached. That doesn’t mean that we should not be privy to an expansive story of how we got to who we are today.”

But the deal that Mr. Reed helped to broker created the complicated task of moving the painting from the Atlanta Cyclorama and Civil See “Cyclorama restoration,” p.7

**Camp meeting minutes** *Continued from p. 1*

Commander Williams and Adjutant Cummings reported on the February 6, 2016 Maryland Division SCV Semi Annual Meeting including:

--The contributions to place a marker at the grave of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Fant, a Marylander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry. It was later determined that after the contributions were received Lt. Fant had been disinterred and moved to another cemetery with an appropriate marker.

-- A discussion on the Mayor's Special Commission to Review Public Confederate Monuments in Baltimore and the related Maryland Historic Trust Easements.

--Possible new designs for Maryland Division, SCV license tags. The red and white Maryland Bottony Cross was considered.

Announcements:

March 5, 2016 - Capt. Waddell Camp ceremony and Maryland Division, SCV Flag Rally, 11:00 a.m. St Anne's Cemetery, Annapolis, Md.

April 16, 2016 - Maryland Division, SCV Annual Convention sponsored by the Captain Vincent Camalier Camp, American Legion Post 255, Ridge, Maryland. 9:00 a. m.

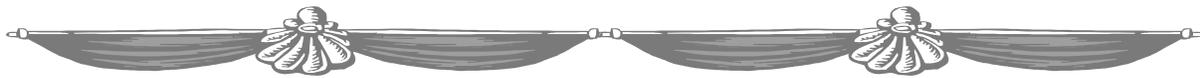
April 25, 2016 - Display of four Confederate Flags at the Hall of Records / State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland, 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer at 9:20 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
G. Elliott Cummings  
Adjutant*

*Below: Commander Michael K. Williams swears in Gene Leasure as 1st Lt Commander of the Col. Harry W. Gilmor Camp SCV, Feb. 10, 2016.*





**March 8 meeting** *Continued from p. 1*

Table of Military History where he has been a regular speaker. Frank has also spoken at the Baltimore Civil War Round Table on the Battle of Gettysburg.

Frank’s presentation is on “Gettysburg: Day One”. The Battle of Gettysburg was extremely important to the future of the United States. To better understand the battle we will examine the events that preceded it as Robert E. Lee led the Army of Northern Virginia into the North, invading Pennsylvania and reaching the environs of the state capital, Harrisburg.

The majority of the presentation will focus on the actions of July 1, 1863 and the “meeting” engagement that occurred between Lee’s army and the Army of the Potomac with its new commander, George G. Meade, at the crossroads town of Gettysburg. We will not only cover all of the action that day but we will also discuss the key officers of both armies, their decisions, the many “what ifs,” and some interesting vignettes.

The PowerPoint presentation will include maps, historic photographs, current photographs and paintings and drawings that recreate the first day’s battle. We might even meet Harry Gilmor! Please join us on March 8<sup>th</sup> for what promises to be a very educational and entertaining evening.

**Mark Your Calendar!**

April 1, 2017 - Maryland Division, SCV Maryland monument clean-up at Benner's Hill, Gettysburg, PA starting at 9 a.m.

April 15, 2017 - Maryland Division, SCV convention, Newburg, MD

starting at 9 a.m. - see Commander Pyle for registration packet.

May 13, 2017 - Clean-up at Confederate Hill starting at 9 a.m.

May 20, 2017 - Capt. Wirtz event at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, D.C. starting at 11 a.m.

June 1, 2017 - PNC Kelly Barrow will be guest speaker at the Sharpsburg Camp, Hagerstown, MD starting at 7 p.m.

June 24 - 26, 2017 - Corbits Charge event, Westminster, MD, more info to come

August 26, 2017 - Norris Camp's river crossing event, more info to come.

September 16, 2017 - Maryland Division, SCV Maryland monument clean-up at Benner's Hill, Gettysburg, PA starting at 9 a.m.

October 14, 2017 - Point Lookout event, starting at 11 a.m.

November 4, 2017 - Annual Gilmor Ancestor Dinner starting at 7 p.m., more info to come

November 18, 2017 - Remembrance Day parade at Gettysburg, PA

**Cyclorama restoration** *Continued from p. 6*

War Museum, which closed in 2015 to prepare for a relocation that will cumulatively require about 200 people. Not long ago, a risk-management expert from the History Center’s insurer called Jackson McQuigg, the center’s vice president of properties, with a polite, terse request: “Walk me through it.”

Workers, Mr. McQuigg replied, will spend days rolling the painting, which is appraised at \$7.5 million, onto a pair of 6,200-pound spools. A crane will slowly lift the spools — “We’re hoping paint-drying goes faster,” Mr. McQuigg said in an interview — through seven-foot holes cut in the roof of the nearly century-old building. Then, once the shrink-wrapped painting is resting aboard two trucks, the workers will let the clock tick.

“We’re going to wait until everybody goes home and the traffic dies

down and there’s no more Atlanta rush hour,” Mr. McQuigg said in the musty room where the cyclorama has hung for generations. “Heck, it might be 3 in the morning.” The cyclorama’s former home will be converted into an event space for

Zoo Atlanta, a private nonprofit. The painting, once it has been relocated, will undergo extensive restoration efforts before its formal reopening, scheduled for fall 2018.

Among panorama proponents, the project in Atlanta, more than eight years after a restoration of the “Battle of Gettysburg” cyclorama in Pennsylvania, is seen as a crucial effort to preserve the medium’s past. Fewer than two dozen cycloramas from the late 1800s and early 1900s are believed to have survived the last century.

*See “Cyclorama restoration,” p.8*



March, 2017

**Cyclorama restoration** *Continued from p. 7*

“It’s a chance to represent a really major and widely consumed art form that most people have really forgotten about,” said Sara Velas, the president of the International Panorama Council and the artistic director of the Velaslavasay Panorama in Los Angeles. “It’s still impactful and entertaining, even if our attention span has changed from what it was in the 19th century.”

And in Atlanta, a city that was a cradle of the civil rights movement but is within sight of a state-owned monument to the Confederacy at

Stone Mountain, reviving the “Battle of Atlanta” cyclorama is also a means to clarifying history.

“It’s been caught up in ‘the Lost Cause,’ and that made it a sore subject for a lot of people,” Dr. Jones said of the painting that stood nearby, shrouded in scaffolding.

“We’ve got to unwrap that, and we’ve got to get past that, and we’ve got to be able to talk about ‘the Lost Cause’ objectively and talk about it for what it is and what it’s not. This is a way we can do that.”



*Gordon L. Jones, the senior military historian and curator at the Atlanta History Center, beside the painting, which is currently shrouded in scaffolding.*

*Courtesy Melissa Golden for The New York Times*

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**THE GILMOR BLADE**

*Bruce and Nancy Null  
2600 Masseth Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21219*



***The Gilmor Blade is the monthly publication of the Col. Harry W. Gilmor Camp #1388, Sons of Confederate Veterans.***

***SAVE THE DATE: March Camp meeting 3/8/2017  
Speaker: Frank Arminger, “Gettysburg: Day One”***