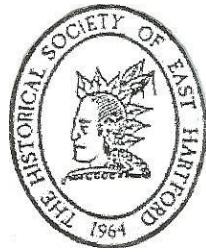


# *Historical Society of East Hartford*

## *Newsletter, September 2013*



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Since our May meeting at the Selden Brewer House, the Historical Society has had another busy summer season at the Huguenot House in Martin Park. All three museum buildings were open every Sunday afternoon during June, July and August. Our busiest opening for tours was on Saturday, June 8th when we participated in Connecticut Open House Day. During the off season, tours of the museum buildings are by appointment only. This has also been another successful year in booking teams conducting paranormal investigations which are scheduled until the Town turns off the water in the park. The Huguenot House has always been a very active site. With the modern equipment some groups have, more and more data is being collected.

We were recently made aware of the Town's intent to demolish a historic structure at 26 Bissell Street. This two story wood frame building was East Hartford's first fire headquarters when it was built in 1893. It was called Center Hose Company #1. The Gazette wrote a front-page article that included some commentary from Town Historian and Historical Society member Raymond Johnson. Although the structure has been neglected in recent years, it would be a shame for this piece of East Hartford's history to be ripped apart and carried off in a dumpster. We share the same concerns as the East Hartford Historic District Commission. Some attempt should be made so that it might be preserved.

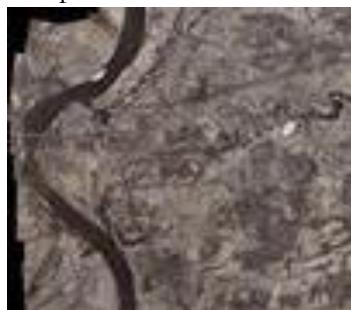
The September 18, 2013 Historical Society annual dinner meeting will again be held in the First Congregational Church, 837 Main Street at Church Corners. We will have a delicious buffet style dinner catered by Matt Becker of Becker's Catering. The full menu appears in this newsletter. Following our annual dinner, there will be a short business meeting for the election of officers for the upcoming year and then we will have our program.

A renewal notice for Historical Society membership in the September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014 year and a required reservation form for the annual dinner is included in the newsletter. Save yourself a 46 cents stamp and return both payment forms back in one envelope. For anyone wanting to attend the program without having dinner, there is no cost. Free parking is available in the back of the Church. I hope to see most everyone on Wednesday, September 18.

Craig Johnson

### **ANNUAL DINNER PROGRAM – 1928, 1935 AERIAL EAST HARTFORD PHOTOS**

Please join us at the First Congregational Church on Main Street for the Wednesday, September 18th Annual Dinner/Business Meeting and greet our guest speaker, Brian Smith. Doors to the church will open at 6:00pm and dinner will start at 6:30pm. Brian Smith's program will follow.



Brian Smith serves as the Head Assessor for the Town of East Hartford and will provide us with his department's showing of the aerial photographic views taken of the town in the years 1928 and 1935. Brian has graciously volunteered an evening to identify many areas of East Hartford as the town charted several early years of growth and expansion. While portions of the 1928 aerials are online on the Assessor's Town Website, the entire collection of the 1935 aerial photographs of East Hartford has only recently been digitized and numbered for viewing. These pictures have been added to the town website. Those of us who attend the dinner will get to see these on a much larger screen and in greater detail. Among notable changes to the downtown area, Burnside Avenue and Connecticut Boulevard, it will be interesting viewing the town's landscape before and just after Hamilton Standard and PWA broke ground on Main Street, so don't miss it!

Program Chair: Bette Daraskevich

## **PROGRAM FOR THE EAST HARTFORD WOMAN'S CLUB**

The East Hartford Woman's Club (EHW) has asked the Historical Society if we would be willing to do a program for their upcoming business year. They generously contributed monies to us last year and we are once again listed under their Donations category for this year. As Program Chair for our membership, I suggested we might be willing to exhibit some of the many ladies garments that were donated to our Collections, beginning with a dress from the 1850's and ending with a wedding gown worn before 1920. Because we are so short on mannequins and dress forms, it will be necessary for about five ladies who wear either a size 6 or a size 8 to model these before an audience of about 70 women; we already have three ladies who volunteered. Joan Olenick, the Program Chair for the EHW, has assigned us the date of Wednesday, November 13th. Their club's meeting will take place at the South Congregational Church on Forbes Street beginning at 7:00 pm. The facility has a stage, so we get to show off these garments like an actual model on a runway.

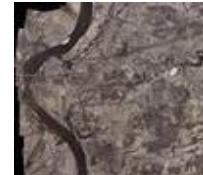
We will need people to sort through and select ten outfits and help dress/undress models on the evening of the event. If you would like to work on the preparations for this Fashion Show or for the November evening of the EHW, please contact Bette Daraskevich, Program Chair at 860-568-5188.

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### **SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 ANNUAL DINNER/PROGRAM**

**Reservation Must be Received by Sept, 14, 2013**

**Tickets are \$20.00**



**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$** \_\_\_\_\_

Make a check for the dinner reservation out to: **The Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc.**  
Mail check to: **Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc., Po Box 380166, East Hartford, CT, 06138-0166**

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

"Please support the Historical Society of East Hartford by renewing your membership. We need your help to maintain the Huguenot House, School House and Blacksmith Shop, to provide programs to our members and the public, to support our newsletter, and to continue the good work we do to preserve East Hartford history."

Fern Strong, 860-528-0716

### **MEMBERSHIP DUES, SEPT 1, 2013 – AUG 31, 2014**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY, STATE, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL NEWSLETTER? Y** \_\_\_\_ **N** \_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$15.00 / Individual, \$20.00/All at one address,**  
**\$10.00 / Student, \$50.00/Patron**

Make a check for membership out to: **The Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc.**  
Mail check to: **Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc., Po Box 380166, East Hartford, CT, 06138-0166**

# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER

September 18th 2013

First Congregational Church, East Hartford

The reservation for the annual dinner must be received by Saturday, September 14, 2013 using the required reservation form enclosed in the newsletter. The cost of the "all you can eat" buffet dinner is \$20 per person. Members are encouraged to bring guests and the doors to the lower level of the Church will open at 6:00 p.m. Dinner starts promptly at 6:30. Please call Craig Johnson at 860-568-2884 for more information or if you have questions.

## Menu

*Catering by Becker's*

**White and Dark Meat Roasted Turkey • Baked Ham • Mashed Potatoes • Glazed Carrots  
New England Apple Sausage Cranberry Stuffing • Tossed Salad with Italian Vinaigrette  
Rolls with Butter • Bottled Water, Tea, Coffee  
Pumpkin Pie with Fresh Whipped Cream**

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## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### Historical Society of East Hartford Executive Board 2013 - 2014

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers:

<b>President:</b>	Craig Johnson
<b>Vice President:</b>	Bette Daraskevich
<b>Recording/Corresponding Secretary:</b>	Eileen Driscoll
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Roy Spiller
<b>Historian/Antiquarian:</b>	Jeff Cummings
<b>Director:</b>	Ruth Shapleigh-Brown
4 year:	
3 year:	Dan Russell
2 year:	Judy Hillman
1 year:	Gerry Rozie

We thank all of the slate for their past services and their continued willingness to serve the Society. We are also very grateful to Ruth Shapleigh-Brown who filled the one year open term for the year ending and has agreed to run for a new four year term.

Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on September 18th. According to Robert's Rules of Order, nominations from the floor will be accepted.

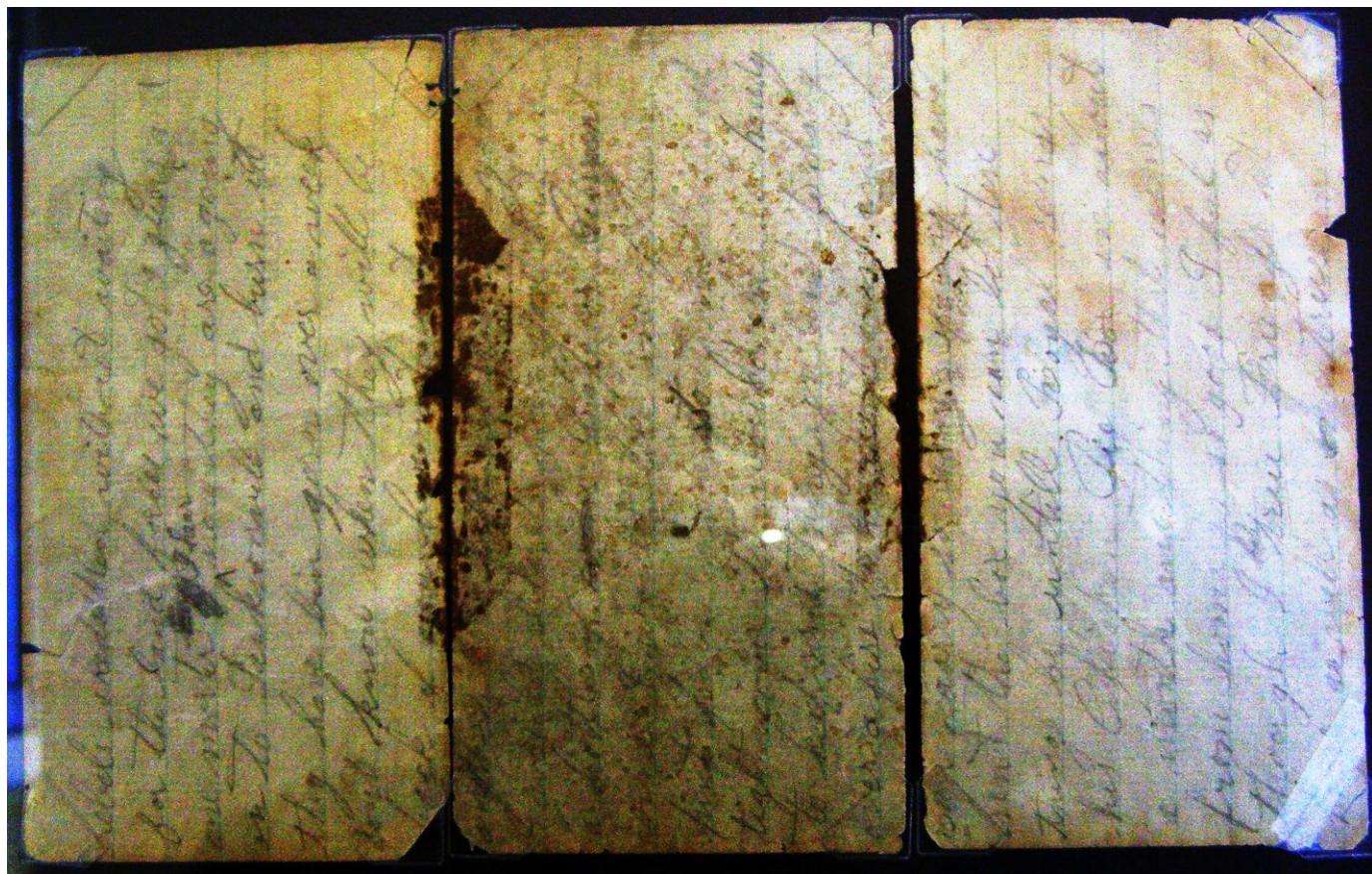
## FALL TRIPS TO TAKE & PLACES TO VISIT

Now that autumn is near with its incredible splashes of color and cooler air, if it's possible put a day on hold, get in the car, and enjoy a trip to one of these suggested locales.

Member Dan Russell highly recommends the **75 Objects / 75 Years** exhibition of the Wilton Historical Society, 224 Danbury Rd, Wilton, CT, 06897. 75 objects from their permanent exhibit are on display Tues – Sun 11am – 4pm. The items range from 1794 through the 1900s and include dolls, samplers, tools, paintings, and more.

**The CT Barns Trail** is a CT Trust for Historic Preservation brochure. It describes types of barns & gives maps for 7 self-guided barn tours throughout CT. Get 1 at the Historical Society. Our Blacksmith shop is included.

## SAMUEL A. PRATT CIVIL WAR LETTER



Above is a copy of the Samuel A Pratt Civil War letter given to the Historical Society of East Hartford by the Simkewicz family. Page 1 is on the left, page 2 on the right. Unfortunately the years have taken their toll on the letter: the penciled script has faded in parts, tape marks & smudges/grime cover writing especially in the center of the 2<sup>nd</sup> page. It is a treasured link with our past.

## THE SAMUEL A. PRATT LETTER

First mentioned in the November 2012 Newsletter, we were extremely pleased for a donation to our Historical Society of a Civil War letter sent by an East Hartford soldier to his mother. The letter was dated October 9, 1862 and sent from the 7th Conn. Regiment hospital located at Hilton Head, SC. The author was Private Samuel A. Pratt and the letter was addressed to his mother, Parmelia. We are again very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. John Simkewicz for their donation. John obtained the letter many years ago from his friend Charlie Steele who found it in an attic of a 19th century home on Silver Lane which no longer stands. It once had an accompanying envelope. After the letter was found, it was always known to both as the "Pratt Letter."

Samuel A. Pratt died at age 22 on October 28, 1862 of some form of illness. More Civil War soldiers died from disease than from actual battle wounds. The letter was written very shortly before he died and could have been his last sent home. The letter used pencil instead of ink so certain parts are very faded. It also used stationary from General Thomas W. Sherman who commanded the US Army expeditionary forces during the Battle of Port Royal, SC in November 1861. The fall of Fort Walker placed Hilton Head Island in Union hands. In 1862 General T. W. Sherman transferred to the western theatre. Any stationary he left behind would not have been discarded but put to good use.

The letter starts off as "Dear Mother" "I will write you a few lines this morning to let you know how I get along and I think I am doing pretty well now I feel much better I sit up considerable John Vinton is getting better" It is interesting to note that Private John Vinton<sup>1</sup> of South Windsor died on October 27, 1862, one day before Samuel Pratt died. They both were in the same regimental Company A and must have known each other. Vinton's name was in the letter because Pratt's mother knew who he was.

The letter also included some of the action the 7th Conn. Regiment was involved in during 1862. It reads: "I guess our Regt has gone down on the coast of Florida the gun boats shelled out a rebel battery and the rebels skedaddled without waiting for the land forces we got 9 guns and one mortar I hear now they are a going on to Jacksonville and burn it they have been gone over a week don't know when they will be back if [indecipherable]." The brown stains are from scotch tape used to hold the letter together but this unfortunately obliterated some words from the passages.

The 7th Conn. Regiment Hospital was located on Hilton Head Island or perhaps on a ship off of the Island. For the hospitalized soldiers, receiving boxes that include food and some other comforts was extremely important. A good part of the letter was devoted to such boxes. The letter reads: "I hear that Schooners got in yesterday [indecipherable] voyage but things are a going to be different after this there is 2,000 boxes aboard mostly spoilt. I expect I shall get my box today." The last clearly legible passage was made upside down to the front page of the letter as follows: "There is lots of boxes some all more or less damaged there has been a great many things stolen by the Government thieves"

Samuel A. Pratt is buried at Center Cemetery and his name appears on the 1868 Civil War Monument honoring the soldiers from East Hartford who did not survive the war. Craig Johnson

## **UPDATES TO W3R-NHT EVENT TO HONOR REP PAMELA SAWYER**

This is an update for the W3R event advertised on the following page. The new RSVP date is Sept 20. Also there will be an opportunity to talk with the following NHT route expert guests who intend to be there including CT State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni, CT and NPS Historian Bob Selig, former SHPO Historian/Administrator Mary Donahue, Current DECD/SHPO Administrator Todd Levine, Bob Rivard, CTSSAR1st VP, Honorary French Consul to CT and former W3R®- CT Chapter Chairman Yolande Bosman, and Rochambeau descendant Eric de Rochambeau. Also there will be Native American and Dragoon activities at Bolton Heritage Farm on Saturday and Sunday including a Dragoon Libation Ceremony.

<sup>1</sup> Record of Service of Connecticut Men in the Army and Navy of the United States During the War of the Rebellion, Compiled by Authority of the General Assembly Under Direction of the Adjutants-General, Press of the Case, Lockwood & Brainard Company, Hartford, CT, 1889.

On page 297 is some basic information on Samuel A Pratt of East Hartford, CT. He enlisted on Sept 3, 1861 and died on Oct 28, 1862.

Also on page 297 we read of Pvt John R Vinton of South Windsor, CT. He enlisted in the 7th CVI, Co A, on Aug 19, 1861, was wounded June 16, 1862 at James Island, SC, and died Oct 27, 1862.

## MANY THANKS TO

### Judy, Fern, & Elizabeth

The July 25th issue of the Gazette had a front page article about the new people hired at the Raymond Library. Greg and I saw Judy Hillman, HSEH director, recently after reading the article. Since the higher ups all retired, Judy has been doing double duty as the Head Librarian and (name your hat!). She is immensely relieved to welcome the 4 new recruits who started this past Monday. It's been a very busy spring and summer for her.

HSEH member Fern Strong retired and HSEH member and former intern, Elizabeth Morin, was hired to take her place as the Administrative Assistant to the new Library Director, Susan M. Hansen. Elizabeth spent a year with us as our intern, coming to the Selden Brewer House on a weekly basis to automate the Historical Society's collections, copying entries from the handwritten logbooks into Past Perfect museum software as we found new locations to care and store for the donated items. She also gave lessons to most of the board members so we could access the program ourselves whenever we needed to.

We should extend our congratulations to both Fern (on her retirement) and Elizabeth (who landed a great job) and wish them both success in their future endeavors. And give a big thank you to Judy who inherited a big job and has shepherded the library through a difficult time.

Bette Daraskevich

## AND MANY THANKS TO

### Pat Jones

As he has also recently retired Betty Squires and Betty Knose would like very much to thank Library Director, Pat Jones, for the kindness and help he gave us when we 2 'newbies' from the Historical Society were working with the state on the installation of the Washington-Rochambeau marker (as 1 of 12) at Raymond in 2005-2006. What we needed he gave. Always kindly and graciously. Many thanks, Pat, and have an enjoyable retirement.

**JOIN US FOR A  
REVOLUTIONARY GOOD TIME!**  
**Reception and Tribute for  
Honoree Representative Pamela Sawyer**



**Friday, September 27, 2013  
at 6:00 pm**  
**Bolton High School**  
**"The Student Commons"**  
**72 Brandy Street**  
**Bolton, Connecticut 06043**

**Organized by the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route - National Historic Trail Connecticut Affiliate, the Connecticut Heritage Trails Committee, and the Town of Bolton to celebrate Bolton Heritage Weekend!**

Refreshments will be served

Heritage attire is welcomed



Kindly RSVP by September 10, 2013  
Mr. Hans DePold 860.647.7377 or  
wrrrnh@gmail.com

Connecticut  
self-revolutionary

UPDATES on preceding page; NEW RSVP Sept 20



Friends of Center Cemetery  
presents the 2013

## Lantern Tour

**HISTORY \* DRAMA \* COMEDY**

**See the men and women  
from East Hartford's  
colorful past come alive!**

**Saturday,  
September 14**



**CENTER CEMETERY** is located at 944 Main St. (Rte. 5), E. Hartford.

Parking is available next door at Save A Lot market or on street.

Tours last about 1 hr., 10 min. and will start every 15 min. from 6:30 to 9 pm.

Refreshments, entertainment and displays will be available while waiting  
for next tour to begin. Admission \$10.00

RAIN DATE SATURDAY, 9/21

Information: tel. 860 643 5652, or visit us on Facebook

## CIVIL WAR SNAPSHOT, MAR 1863 - MAY 22, 1863<sup>2</sup>

CORRECTION In the May 2013 HSEH Newsletter in the *Civil War Snapshot* the abbreviation 'AK' was incorrectly used. It should have been 'AR' for Arkansas.

- Mar 3, 1863 Lincoln signs the 1st effective Federal Conscription Act: all able bodied males, 20-45, eligible for draft, \$300 will hire a substitute or buy way out; its administration is inefficient, corrupt and divisive
- Mar 3, 1863 Peace Democrats, opposing the war, are led by Clement Vallandigham of Ohio; influence grows in the North; in South groups for peace and rejoining the Union grow but have less influence
- Mar 3, 1863 Congress passes Habeas Corpus Act: allows President to suspend the writ as needed during the war, legitimizes Lincoln's Apr 1861 and Sept 1862 suspensions, outlines release of political prisoners, etc
- Mar 6, 1863 White mob storms a black Detroit area, kills blacks, leaves about 200 homeless, destroys perhaps 32 houses; anti-black articles, political statements, job losses fuel more northern riots in 1863
- Mar 8, 1863 Confed Cavalryman Mosby with 29 men steal into Union lines at Fairfax Court House, VA, capture Union Gen Stoughton asleep in his bed to the delight of the South and embarrassment of the North
- Mar 10, 1863 In *Prize Cases* US Supreme Court decides that even though Congress had not declared war Lincoln did have the right to set up the blockade; he has the power to act when attacked
- Mar 13, 1863 Explosion at Ordnance Lab in Richmond kills 69, 62 of them women; in June 1864 at North's Washington Arsenal explosion will take more than 24 lives, wound many more, mostly women
- Mar 13, 1863 Union forces arrest vivacious Antonia Ford for providing info to the Confederacy; her info is so valuable Confed Gen Jeb Stuart has made her honorary major – letter to *NY Times*, Mar 14
- Mar 16, 1863 Union War Sec'try Stanton sends new American Freedmen's Inquiry Commission to investigate freed slaves' conditions after emancipation; learn how to help them become self-supportive
- Spring, 1863 Union Gen Hooker has replaced Gen Burnside as commander of the AOP; he has reorganized a beaten, demoralized army, improved its food, sanitation and is giving it a sense of self confidence
- Mar 17, 1863 AOP's cavalry under Gen Averell, 2100 men, almost defeat Confed cavalry, Gen Fitzhigh Lee, 800 strong, in 5 hour fight at Kelly's Ford<sup>3</sup>, VA; Union cavalry, once thought inferior, is now an equal
- Mar 18, 1863 Confed is suffering high inflation, low funds, and shortages; its Commissioner to France, John Slidell, obtains a 3 million pound loan from financier Erlanger to continue to do business in Europe
- Mar 26, 1863 Confed Congress issues Impression Act allowing agents to seize freedmen, food, clothing, slaves, horses, railroads, etc for the army and navy; regulated by states under War Dept; very unpopular
- Apr 2, 1863 Richmond, VA: Food shortage brings about 1,000 people, many women and children, to the Capitol to demand food; receive none; angrily sack businesses for bread & goods; riots spread across South
- Apr 6-11, 1863 Lincoln visits Gen Hooker's AOP; sends memo to Hooker: there is no suitable route to Richmond, Lee's ANV is directly ahead of us, harass it, give it no rest, when it weakens pitch into it
- Apr 7, 1863 Charleston, SC: 9 Union ironclads attempt to reduce Fort Sumter and sail to Charleston; take terrible beating; ironclad *Keokuk* will sink the next day; naval forces alone cannot take Charleston
- Apr 10, 1863 Confed Pres Davis speaks to southern unrest: droughts of 1862 have severely reduced food supply; let fields now grow food for men, animals - corn, potatoes, peas, etc - instead of cotton, tobacco
- Apr 13, 1863 Union Gen Burnside, Commander of the Dept of the Ohio, to control treasonous activity orders anyone involved in any such activity be tried for treason, punishable by death or banishment
- Apr 16, 1863 Vicksburg, MS: ball dancers celebrating city's impregnability are stunned to hear their guns roar; Union gunboats, transports successfully pass city's defenses to set up base for Grant below the city
- Apr 17, 1863 Union Col Grierson starts 600 mile, 2 week cavalry raid through hostile territory (south TN, through MS, to Baton Rouge) will cause havoc to divert Confed manpower from Grant at Vicksburg

<sup>2</sup> See The NY Times, The Opinion Pages, Opinionator, Disunion: The Civil War  
<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2010/10/29/opinion/20101029-civil-war.html>.

The Library of Congress Illustrated Timeline of the Civil War, Wagner, Margaret E., Little and Brown & Co., NY, NY; 2011.  
The Civil War Chart, Contributing Writers Martha Graham, George Skoch; Consultant William C. Davis, Publications International Limited, Lincolnwood, IL., 60646.

Foote, Shelby, The Civil War, a Narrative Fredericksburg to Meridian, Random House, NY, 1958.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/kelly-s-ford.html?tab=facts>, *Kelly's Ford*, Civil War Trust

Apr 24, 1863	Suffering from rampant inflation the Confed imposes wide-ranging taxes: progressive income tax, excise and license duties, 10% profits tax, 10% tax in kind on agriculture products, etc; not popular
Apr 24, 1863	Lincoln makes 1 <sup>st</sup> attempt to codify international rules of war, "Lieber Code"; eg if any member of the armed forces is captured and enslaved or sold, severest retaliation would follow if not rectified
Apr 27, 1863	Chancellorsville Campaign (C): Union Gen Hooker starts his AOP (133,000 strong) across the Rappahannock; marches west of Gen Lee's ANV (60,000 strong) at Fredericksburg
Apr 30, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Union Gen Grant crosses MS River at Bruinsburg, MS; starts north for Vicksburg
Apr 30, 1863	Chancellorsville C: with Gen Hooker about 11 miles west of Fredericksburg and a smaller Union force southeast of the city Gen Hooker plans to attack Gen Lee in a pincer movement
May 1, 1863	Chancellorsville C: Hooker attacks Lee; Lee splits his smaller force, 1/5 hold Fredericksburg; the rest attack Hooker who unaccountably returns to a defensive position at Chancellorsville
May 1, 1863	Famed English actress Fannie Kemble publishes her diary in Britain of life as wife of slave and plantation owner; describes cruel handling of slaves; hopes England will not support Confed
May 1, 1863	Confed President Davis is authorized to put to death or otherwise punish by military tribunal captured officers of black regiments; captured enlisted blacks to be delivered to states for treatment
May 1, 1863	Peace Democrat Valandigham decries war as unnecessary fight for freedom for blacks, enslavement of whites; is arrested; followers riot, burn newspaper and half a block of adjoining buildings
May 2, 1863	Chancellorsville C: Lee again splits his forces, sends Gen Jackson against Hooker's right; after 14 hour flanking march Jackson routes Union's 11 <sup>th</sup> Corps; Jackson's men accidentally wound him
May 3, 1863	Chancellorsville C: Union forces capture heights above Fredericksburg in fierce fighting; Lee once more splits his forces, sends help to city; does not attack Hooker; is 2 <sup>nd</sup> bloodiest day of Civil War
May 4, 1863	Chancellorsville C: Confeds drive Union forces out of Fredericksburg; Hooker does not act
May 5-6, 1863	Chancellorsville C: frustrated Union forces become angry when ordered to re-cross the Rappahannock; it is Lee's biggest victory; casualties in fighting - Union 17,000, Confeds 13,000
May 6, 1863	Lincoln learns of Hooker's incredible defeat at Chancellorsville; in despair he paces up and down repeating "My God! My God! What will the country say! What will the country say!"
May 6, 1863	Cincinnati military tribunal sentences Copperhead Valandigham to prison for the war's duration for treasonous opinions; Lincoln will worry about legality, will send him to the Confed in May
May 10, 1863	Confed Gen Jackson survived the amputation of his arm but cannot survive the pneumonia that develops and dies; Gen Lee does not know how to replace him; the entire South mourns
May 12, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Grant pushes northeast against Confeds at Port Gibson, May 1, Raymond May 12 ; he is perhaps 8 mi southwest of Jackson, MS capitol (Jackson about 20 mi east of Vicksburg)
May 14, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Confeds' small force retreats toward Vicksburg from Jackson; Grant burns part of city, destroys its rail isolating Vicksburg
May 15, 1863	Richmond, VA: Confed Gen Lee will not send 2 divisions west to Vicksburg; instead will invade PA to draw Union forces from VA and MS, victory will strengthen Peace Democrats, impress Europe
May 16-17, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Grant's army turns west; drives Confeds from Champion Hill across Big Black River and into Vicksburg defenses
May 17, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Confed Gen Johnston, Dept of the West, orders his subordinate, Gen Pemberton, to leave Vicksburg, if possible, and join him to avoid losing both Pemberton's men and the city
May 18, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Gen Pemberton in Vicksburg believes with Pres Davis that the city should be held at all costs: he hopes for help to keep "this obstruction to northern shipping" <sup>4</sup> ; he will not leave
May 19, 22, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Grant fears Johnston, 50 miles behind him, could help Pemberton; Grant assaults the city on May 19 and 22; both fail; many losses; Vicksburg's defenses are formidable
May 22, 1863	Vicksburg, MS: Grant starts the siege of Vicksburg; Union Gen in Chief Halleck will send Grant help; in Vicksburg the hope is for help from Johnston
May, 22-June 1863	Vicksburg Siege: Pemberton has 30,000 men; Grant has 77,000 half facing the city, the other half behind him facing east toward Johnston's 30,000; 5,000 <sup>5</sup> city pop, 1860 census; values approx

<sup>4</sup> The Library of Congress Illustrated Timeline of the Civil War, pg 131, Wagner, Margaret E., Little and Brown & Co., NY, NY, 2011.

<sup>5</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vicksburg,\\_Mississippi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vicksburg,_Mississippi), Historical Populations, Census, 1860