



DRUM AND BUGLE CALL

MAHONING VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

DATE: Monday, January 14, 2019 @ 6:30 PM

LOCATION: A La Cart Catering, 429 Lisbon Street, Canfield, Ohio 44406

SPEAKER: Drew Gerber

WHO was Decimus et Ultimus Barziza?

David Duchek, Editor / Publisher 330.207.8810

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www.mahoningvalleycwrt.com

2015. He previously worked for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and was appointed by two Virginia governors, Bob McDonnell and Terry McAuliffe, to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources.

Although he “abhors” writing, Drew is the author of several articles. In his spare time he enjoys listening to records and sipping brown spiritus liquors. He holds an M.S. from Virginia Commonwealth University and a B.A. from Mary Washington College. He lives in Williamsburg with his wife Kate and their cats.

In 2013, Drew was awarded the Lawrence T. Jones III Research Fellow in Texas Civil War History for his work on this evening’s subject—**Decimus et Ultimus Barziza**, whose biography is both

entertaining and provides a better understanding of the lives of “average” Confederate soldiers: born into an aristocratic family along Colonial Williamsburg’s famous Duke of Gloucester Street; wounded at Little Round Top leading the famed Fourth Texas; a daring prison break and a harrowing run through the blockade; he was the secret author of a famous wartime diary and rabidly opposed to reconstruction. In Barziza’s story, the truth is truly stranger than fiction.



D. U. BARZIZA.

Drew Gerber says he is “fascinated by the lives and experiences of the average soldier and citizen who navigated battlefields, towns, and landscapes during the war.” For his interest in history, he credits his grandfather, whose “Victory at Sea” VHS tapes were a constant during Drew’s formative years.

Drew joined Civil War Trails as Executive Director in August



Drum & Bugle wants your input

Do you have an interesting hobby related to the Civil War? What about a family story that is so worth telling? Or the latest tactical read that you either enjoyed or panned? Well, let’s get it into print! *This is your newsletter, so we’d like to hear what you have to say and learn about your interests.* Talk to **Dave Duchek** at the next meeting; or by phone; or drop a quick email to dduchek@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Winter Weather Meeting Policy

The winter months are unpredictable when it comes to weather in the Mahoning Valley, so we felt it was important to reiterate our winter weather policy: *A La Cart Catering will not close because of severe weather. Speakers show up and expect to be compensated for their time/travel. We can’t cancel or reschedule; but we hope you will use your best judgment regarding travel conditions on meeting nights.*

MVCWRT web overhaul includes fresh look, exciting new features

mahoningvalleycwrt.com

Last month, the Mahoning Valley Civil War Round Table celebrated the re-launch of its website in a cleaner, more modern and user friendly format. Our webmaster, **Dan Welch**, has spent the past several months working with a new webhost and a web designer. And **Gary Wholf**, MVCWRT program director, reports that he is very proud of this achievement.

The fresh new design features information about upcoming meetings and trips, along with historical articles and member research, an image gallery highlighting member photographs from past trips and work groups, and more to come.

Upon first reaching the site, viewers are greeted with a warm, welcoming message: *“Touring battle-fields. Listening to presentations about history. Discussing books. Volunteering. Fundraising for preservation efforts. Sharing experiences. Building friendships. Does this sound appealing to you? We warmly invite you to visit and join Mahoning Valley Civil War Round Table here in Ohio! We’re a friendly group with about one hundred fifty members, seeking to better understand the history and efforts of the American Civil War.”*

Does that sound appealing to YOU? Check it out. You can also follow us on Facebook.



Mahoning Valley Civil War Round Table

- Discussion and Exploration of American History and Battlefields -

“War, at the best, is terrible, and this war of ours, in its magnitude and in its duration, is one of the most terrible.”

—Abraham Lincoln

“In every battle there comes a time when both sides consider themselves beaten, then he who continues the attack wins.”

—Ulysses S. Grant

“War means fighting, and fighting means killing.”

—Nathan Bedford Forrest

Words on the War

“You know, the thing that struck me about Civil War music was how bloody it was; it was full of hatred. There was incredible vitriol in it.”

—T Bone Burnett

“The Civil War defined us as what we are and it opened us to being what we became, good and bad things... It was

the crossroads of our being, and it was a hell of a crossroads.”

—Shelby Foote

“War is cruelty. There is no use trying to reform it. The crueler it is, the sooner it will be over.”

—William Tecumseh Sherman

“Nothing fills me with deeper sadness than to see a Southerner apologizing for the defense we made of our inheritance.”

—Jefferson Davis

TACTICALLY SPEAKING: The Blue and the Gray were sometimes RED

By **GARY WHOLF**

After the Crimean War, French Zouaves were viewed as the elite infantry, their uniforms patterned after Northern African troops. The uniform featured short jackets, red baggy-type trousers, white gaiters, leather leg jambieres, and red fez caps with tassels.

In Chicago, Elmer Ellsworth formed a militia unit of Zouaves and trained them hard on infantry drills. He eventually took his unit on a 19-city tour of the East Coast, where he challenged local militia units to drill competitions at each stop. Not one local unit accepted his challenge! Ellsworth's tour started the “Zouave craze” just prior to the Civil War.

Many militia units adopted the Zouave uniform and élan. Both Union and Confederate armies had Zouave units, such as the Fifth New York Infantry, a.k.a. Duryée's Zouaves; and Wheat's Louisiana Tigers in the South. Other units displayed variations of the signature uniform.



Examples of Zouave uniforms.

