



DRUM AND BUGLE CALL

MAHONING VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

DATE: Monday, February 12, 2024 @ 6:15 PM

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

SPEAKER: TIMOTHY R. BROOKES

Introducing the Confederate First Family

Dave Duchek, Editor/Reservations.....330-207-8810

Gary Wholf, Program Director.....330-953-1965

www.mahoningvalleycwrt.com

David Walker and his wife (in both centuries), **Dr. Holly Ray**, will present a dynamic, insightful, and thoroughly entertaining program featuring the President and First Lady of the Confederacy. While their time at the lowest point in our nation's history is what often defines their identities, the Davises accomplished so much more during their long lives. We hope tonight's first-person portrayals will leave you with a better understanding of the first couple of the South.

David has been a reenactor and living historian for the better part of his life, and has been impersonating Jefferson Davis for 20 years. Prior to his portrayal of the controversial Confederate President, he spent many years in the ranks of the Union infantry. David presents Jefferson Davis from his birth in Kentucky to his release from prison at Ft. Monroe, Virginia, in 1867. After spending 30 years as an elementary school teacher (mainly fifth grade), David is busier than ever in retirement, appearing at Civil War reenactments, round tables, balls, conferences, fashion shows, schools, civic functions, and most recently on film. He has performed in over ten states.

Holly has been an enthusiastic student of Civil War studies since her teens. A veterinarian by profession, she currently works as Medical Director at the Champion Animal Hospital. Out of the office, she turns her attention to the 1860s—both in military and civilian studies. An important part of her life is the study and portrayal of Varina Davis. Holly's favorite place in the world is Gettysburg and she visits several times a year. She has been a coordinator for The Civilian Celebration, a frequent contributor to *The Homefront Herald*, co-coordinator of the educational program for the Ohio Military Regimental Ball, a speaker at reenactments, and has put on 1860s fashion shows.



Spring raffle in April

Bob Lehman will be selling raffle tickets before our March and April meetings. There are many prizes for the April drawing, including a pewter Civil War chess set with a marble chess board donated by member **Robert Zielke**.

2024 tour dates set

The MVCWRT tours team has coordinated the following destinations for 2024: **May 3-4** marks a return to *Gettysburg*; followed by **Sept. 27-28** for a continuation of *the Peninsula Campaign*. Save the dates. More details will be provided as it become available.

Duck River hosted many engagements

By Mike Miller

At 284 miles long, the Duck River is the longest river entirely in Tennessee. It is the most biologically diverse river in North America with 151 species of fish and over 50 species of freshwater mussels.

Several skirmishes and battles occurred along the banks of the Duck River. Many famous Civil War generals led these encounters, including Patrick Cleburne of the Duck River Riflemen of Company G, 24th Tennessee Volunteer Infantry. Confederates also included Nathan Bedford Forrest, John Hunt

Morgan, Fighting Joe Wheeler, Leonidas Polk, and John Bell Hood. Union generals included George Thomas, William Rosecrans, James Garfield, and William T. Sherman.

The most vital engagement along the Duck River was the Battle of Columbia, which was actually a series of actions that took place over six days in 1864. As a result, the southern army withdrew north across the Duck River. This led to Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville, where the Army of Tennessee under Gen. John Bell Hood would be annihilated.