

Subject:	An Important Update from the Michigan Civil War History Partners
From:	History Remembered, Inc. (civil-war@comcast.net)
To:	pcinc@prodigy.net;
Date:	Friday, November 1, 2013 1:10 AM

History Remembered, Inc.

A Civil War History Partner

Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Circular

October 2013

Volume 4, Issue No. 9

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Michigan Remembers the Civil War -

Tonight was a typical Halloween in Grand Rapids - it was chilly and it rained nearly all day.

On this date in 1913, the Lincoln Highway Association published the route of the Lincoln Highway from their headquarters in Detroit, MI. More about the highway later in this circular.

Don't forget that on November 9, the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners will hold the Michigan Civil War Reenactors Conference in Lansing.

Two days later on November 11, everyone should be sure to thank a veteran for their service in our nation's military. While we should always remember those that sacrificed their all for our freedoms, Veteran's Day is a day to express our appreciation for those who returned home.

And don't forget the extra special events scheduled in Gettysburg on Saturday the 23rd.

Thank you for your efforts to commemorate Michigan's role in the Civil War.

Respectfully,

History Partners
[Keith Harrison](#)

Chair

*The Military Order
of the Loyal Legion
of the United States,
Michigan Commandery*

*Sons of
Union Veterans
of the Civil War,
Department of Michigan*

[Tom Berlucchi](#)

Chair

Reenactors

[John Gibney](#)

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Museums & Roundtables

[Bruce Butgereit](#)

Chair

*Libraries, Historical
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Bruce B. Butgereit, Executive Director
History Remembered, Inc.
Grand Rapids, MI

The Civil War Reenactor Conference -



Michigan
CIVIL WAR
Reenactor Conference®



Saturday,
10 AM - 4
PM
November

9, 2013

Michigan Historical Center
Lansing

Contact:

[Keith Harrison](#)

Please plan on attending.

Event sponsors, host units, living history presenters, and reenactors are welcome to bring literature for distribution. You will also have an opportunity to briefly share information about your event as we go through the 2014 schedule of events.

Donuts and cider will again be offered by the Friends of Michigan History.

Gettysburg -

**Michigan
Remembers Gettysburg**

Saturday, November 23, 2013
Gettysburg National Cemetery
Gettysburg, PA



[Seeking Michigan:
Michigan and
the Civil War](#)

[iMichigan
Productions](#)

Contact:

[Bruce B. Butgereit](#)

There is still time and hotels available for you to plan on attending and participating.

The Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States and the Woman's Relief Corps, with assistance from History Remembered, Inc. have planned an honorable and memorable service to honor the Michigan dead at Gettysburg.

All participants will receive a copy of the commemorative program that will be printed for this event.

[Download the Flyer](#)

[The Tentative Program](#)

Sponsor Opportunities -

Each of us receives numerous requests for our financial support from a variety of organizations and for a variety of causes.

History Remembered is a 501(c)3 corporation with no membership base to raise revenue. We do not charge for a newsletter or this Circular but to publish this each month does have costs.

The Michigan Remembers Gettysburg program has costs involved that you can help with.

Can't attend? Show your support by sponsoring an ad in the commemorative program that will be published.

Contact:

[Bruce B. Butgereit](#)

[Sponsor Ads](#)

The deadline for submitting

something has been extended to November 9, 2013

Thanksgiving Beginnings, October, 1863 -

Washington, D.C.
October 3, 1863

This is the proclamation which set the precedent for America's national day of Thanksgiving. During his administration, President Lincoln issued many orders similar to this. For example, on November 28, 1861, he ordered government departments closed for a local day of thanksgiving.

Sarah Josepha Hale, a 74-year-old magazine editor, wrote a letter to Lincoln on September 28, 1863, urging him to have the "day of our annual Thanksgiving made a National and fixed Union Festival." She explained, "You may have observed that, for some years past, there has been an increasing interest felt in our land to have the Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all the States; it now needs National recognition and authoritative fixation, only, to become permanently, an American custom and institution."

Prior to this, each state scheduled its own Thanksgiving holiday at different times, mainly in New England and other Northern states. President Lincoln responded to Mrs. Hale's request immediately, unlike several of his predecessors, who ignored her petitions altogether. In her letter to Lincoln she mentioned that she had been advocating a national thanksgiving date for 15 years as the editor of Godey's Lady's Book. George Washington was the first president to proclaim a day of thanksgiving, issuing his request on October 3, 1789, exactly 74 years before Lincoln's.

The document below sets apart the last Thursday of November "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise." According to an April 1, 1864, letter from John Nicolay, one of President Lincoln's secretaries, this document was written by Secretary of State William Seward, and the original was in his handwriting. On October 3, 1863, fellow Cabinet member Gideon Welles recorded in his diary how he complimented Seward on his work. A year later the manuscript was sold to benefit Union troops.

By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused

the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the Unites States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

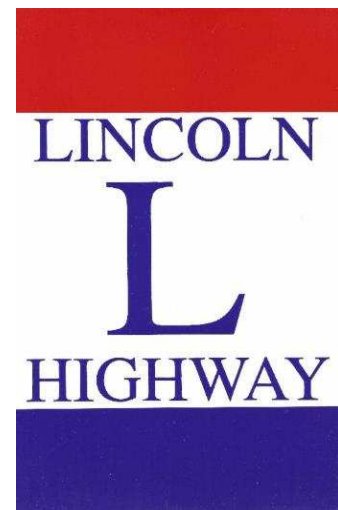
William H. Seward,
Secretary of State

Lincoln Highway -

The Lincoln Highway was the first transcontinental improved highway for automobiles across the United States of America.

Conceived in 1912 by Indiana entrepreneur Carl G. Fisher, and **formally dedicated October 31, 1913**, the Lincoln Highway spanned coast-to-coast from Times Square in New York City to Lincoln Park in San Francisco, originally through 13 states: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California. In 1915, the "Colorado Loop" was removed, and in 1928, a realignment relocated the Lincoln Highway through the northern tip of West Virginia. Thus, there are a total of 14 states, 128 counties, and over 700 cities, towns and villages through which the highway passes at some time in its history.

The Lincoln Highway Association headquarters were located in Detroit, MI. The road was named by Henry B. Joy, President of the Packard Motor Car Company of Detroit and it was the first national memorial to Abraham Lincoln.



DEDICATE LINCOLN HIGHWAY TONIGHT

LOCAL CELEBRATIONS ALONG
LINE OF ROUTE PLANNED—
PROGRAMS ARRANGED IN MANY
CITIES AND TOWNS.

Detroit, Oct. 31.—With local celebrations from coast to coast all along the route of the Lincoln Highway, this great transcontinental thoroughfare will be dedicated tonight to the nation's most honored president, Abraham Lincoln. Patriotic citizens of the thirteen states traversed from New York to California, the same number bound together by the Declaration of Independence, will rejoice over the new bond, a permanent, enduring memorial to the Emancipator, conceded by all as the greatest patriot this country has ever produced.

Programs have been arranged in every city, village, hamlet and cross-roads, either on or adjacent to the route between New York and San Francisco. The pathway through these cities and villages is decorated with the Stars and Stripes, bunting and the official flag of the Lincoln Highway association.

In line with the plan to make the Lincoln Highway not only a smooth, permanent roadway, with easy grades—reaching all important points of scenic splendor across the country—school children will assist in making it a beautiful one as well. Trees are to be planted along the highway on Arbor Day, 1914, by the children and from year to year the Lincoln Highway will be made as picturesque and charming as that old Roman highway, the Appian Way.

Upcoming Events -

November 9 -

Michigan's Fourth Annual Civil War Sesquicentennial
Reenactors Conference Michigan Historical Center, 702
West Kalamazoo, Lansing, Michigan
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

As with the previous annual conferences, the purpose of the reenactor conference is to help promote Michigan Civil War events and Civil War events of significance to Michigan. Individuals, organizations, and communities sponsoring and/or hosting reenactments, living histories, programs, presentations, and/or commemorations are encouraged to bring their fliers and other promotional items about their 2014 event to the conference. In addition to being an official partner in the state's Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration and being able to use two Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial logos in your event's advertisements, the conference results in your event's publication in an established state-wide distributed web-based calendar of events and on Facebook. In 2011, 169, in 2012, 180 and, to date, in 2013, 170 Civil War Sesquicentennial events have been promoted. The conference and subsequent state-wide calendar have proven to be effective tools in helping to avoid event date conflicts and in bringing in additional notice, participants, and public to your events.

Finally, all events published on this calendar will become a permanent record in the Library of Congress documenting what Michigan did for the Civil War Sesquicentennial. The event is again being sponsored and hosted by the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners, Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Michigan Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Friends of Michigan History, Inc., Michigan Historical Center, Historic Fort Wayne Coalition, and History Remembered, Inc.

Is your event listed?

Please remember to send your information via email to Keith Harrison who maintains our website and calendar:

Interesting Websites -

History Remembered is not responsible for any additional content (advertisements/videos) shown on the following pages.

NPR:

[The Lincoln Highway](#)

Phys.org:

[Civil War Poetry](#)

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