July 1, 1863 – The First Day

Class One

After *Lee’s* victory at Chancellorsville, the Army of Northern Virginia heads north into Pennsylvania. Lincoln replaces *Hooker* with Major General *George G. Meade* to lead the Army of the Potomac. Union General *John Buford’s* cavalry delays *Heth’s* Confederates until *John Reynolds’s* Corps comes up. *Ewell’s* forces on the north of Gettysburg halt the attack. On July 1, Confederate forces converged on the town from west and north, driving Union defenders back through the streets to Cemetery Hill. During the night, reinforcements arrived for both sides.
Student Advisory

- These lectures describe the events in the American Civil War.
- Some of the material presented may be upsetting and students are cautioned to be aware of this.
- Racial descriptions and references to races from letters, field reports and other material from the time period may also be objectionable.
- Such material is intended for educational purposes and does in no way reflect the author’s or college’s beliefs and attitudes.
- Comments about political parties and figures are intended for educational purposes and are used to contrast the difference between these parties today and their philosophies during and the time of the American Civil War.
- The instructor may recommend resources that provide additional content, these recommendations are intended as suggestions and students should use their own discretion in visiting websites, reading blogs, and/or obtaining books or magazines.
- The author tries to maintain a balanced perspective relative to Southern and Northern attitudes.

– Allen Mesch
Instructor – Allen Mesch

- Over 40 years in the oil & gas industry
- Adjunct business professor at UTD, TWU & SMU
- Visited over 89 Civil War Battlefields
- Taken over 4,000 pictures
- Created Civil War Journeys web site and blog Salient Points
- Writing biography of Major General C.F. Smith
- Book reviewer for The Civil War Courier
- Married, 2 children & 6 grandkids
- Author of political thriller, The Analyst

Prior SAIL Civil War classes
- The Civil War
- Voices of the Civil War
- Civil War Photography
- From West Point to Fort Sumter
- Civil War Turning Points
- From Springfield to Fort Sumter
- The Armies Clash – First Bull Run and Wilson’s Creek
- Stonewall Jackson’s Valley Campaign
- Union Leadership Crisis in the East

Allen at Gettysburg
Outline

- Class One – July 1, 1863 – The First Day
- Class Two – July 2, 1863 – The Second Day
- Class Three – July 3, 1863 – The Third Day
- Class Four – The Gettysburg Address
Events of 1863 [1]

- **December 31, 1862** – **Battle of Stones River, TN** or Murfreesboro begins
- **January 1** – Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation
- **January 2** - After three days of fighting, the **Battle of Stones River** ends in a draw.
- **January 26** - **Joseph Hooker** assumes command of the Army of the Potomac
- **March 3** - The U.S. Congress passes the first military draft (Enrollment Act or Conscription Act) and exempts those who can pay $300 or provide a stand-in.
- **April 2** - Bread riot in Richmond.
- **April 6** - Lincoln notes “our prime object is the enemies [sic] army in front of us, and is not with, or about, Richmond.”
- **April 10** - Jefferson Davis points out that “We must not forget ... that the war is not ended.”
Events of 1863 [2]

- **May 4** - *General Robert E. Lee* defeats Union forces under Major General *Joseph Hooker* at *Chancellorsville, VA* and forces *Hooker* to retreat to the north bank of the Rappahannock. The Confederacy's joy turns to sorrow when "Stonewall " *Jackson* is mortally wounded.

- **May 10** - General *Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson* dies after *Chancellorsville, VA*

- **May 16** - Union forces defeat Lt. Gen. *John C. Pemberton's* troops at *Champion Hill, MS* forcing the Confederates to retreat to Vicksburg, MS.

- **May 19** - Grant begins the siege of *Vicksburg, MS*.

- **June 9** - The largest cavalry battle takes place at *Brandy Station, VA* with the Union forces led by Maj. Gen. *Pleasanton* defeating Maj. Gen. *J. E. B. Stuart's* Confederates.

- **June 20** - West Virginia becomes 35th state in the Union.

- **June 28** - *George Meade* assumes command of the Army of the Potomac.
Overview

- Army of Northern Virginia
  - Commander – Robert E. Lee
  - Strength – 71,699
- Army of the Potomac
  - Commander – George G. Meade
  - Strength – 93,921
- Ten Facts About Gettysburg
Confederate Commanders

Robert E. Lee

James Longstreet
First Corps

Richard S. Ewell
Second Corps

A. P. Hill
Third Corps

J. E. B. Stuart
Cavalry Units

2/28/2013

Civil War Journeys
Union Commanders

Alfred Pleasanton
Cavalry Corps

George G. Meade

Henry W. Slocum
XII Corps

John F. Reynolds
I Corps

Winfield S. Hancock
II Corps

Daniel E. Sickles
III Corps

John Sedgwick
VI Corps

George Sykes
V Corps

Oliver O. Howard
XI Corps

2/28/2013

Civil War Journeys
Lee’s initial target was Harrisburg, PA

Lee wanted to fight at Cashtown

A.P. Hill approached Gettysburg from West (Third Corps)

Early under Ewell’s Command (Second Corps) had to return from near Harrisburg

Ewell and Longstreet followed Early’s 1st Division and Hill’s Corps to the north

Stuart’s Cavalry was out of position and out of communication with Lee
Battle of Gettysburg – July 1st
The Battle of Gettysburg

- The Battle of Gettysburg - US Army
- Gettysburg - History Animated
- Gettysburg – The Movie
- "No Man Can Take Those Colors and Live" - The 24th Michigan vs. the 26th North Carolina
- The First Day at Gettysburg: Then and Now
- Flags of the First Day