

SVBF 2021 Valley Conference  
BORN OF FIRE: WEST VIRGINIA AND THE CIVIL WAR  
*July 31, 2021 • Martinsburg, West Virginia*

SPEAKERS

JOE GEIGER

**JOE GEIGER** has worked for West Virginia Archives and History since 1998, serving as historian, webmaster, and assistant director before being named director in 2007. Geiger serves as West Virginia's State Archivist and State Historian and is responsible for preserving West Virginia's history. He formerly served as an adjunct instructor in the history departments at Marshall University and West Virginia State University and has published a number of articles and two books, including *Civil War in Cabell County, West Virginia 1861-1865* and *Holding the Line: The Battle of Allegheny Mountain*, published in 2012. His new book, *Disorder on the Border: Civil Warfare in Cabell and Wayne Counties, West Virginia, 1856-1870*, will be published in 2020.

HUNTER LESSER

**HUNTER LESSER** is an author, interpreter and preservationist who enjoys sharing forgotten tales from history that offer lessons for the digital age. A member of the West Virginia Sesquicentennial Commission, his books include *Rebels at the Gate: Lee & McClellan on the Front Line of a Nation Divided* and he coauthored *The Cambridge History of the American Civil War*, just released by Cambridge University Press.

TERRY LOWRY

**TERRANCE (TERRY) D. LOWRY** published his first book, *The Battle of Scary Creek: Military Operations in the Kanawha Valley, April-July 1861* in July of 1982. He has since written and published *September Blood: The Battle of Carnifex Ferry* (1985); and two volumes in the Virginia Regimental Histories Series, *22nd Virginia Infantry* (1988) and *26th (Edgar's) Battalion Virginia Infantry* (1991). He has also written *Last Sleep: The Battle of Droop Mountain - November 6, 1863* (1996) and co-authored (with Stan Cohen) *Military Images of the Civil War in West Virginia* (2000). As a tribute to his father he released *Bastard Battalion: A History of the 83rd Chemical Mortar Battalion in World War II* (2009), which went into its second printing in 2018. Lowry's most current work is *The Battle of Charleston: The 1862 Kanawha Valley Campaign* (2016). In addition to books, Terry Lowry has had Civil War articles published in *North South Trader*, *Wonderful West Virginia*, and *Confederate Veteran* magazines, as well as the *West Virginia Hillbilly* newspaper. Additionally, he has contributed to the Time-Life series of Civil War books, appeared as an extra in the movie *Glory*, and remains an avid collector of Civil War and military memorabilia. Terry was employed for nearly 20 years with the circulation department of Charleston Newspapers, Inc., briefly worked for *The Atlanta Journal*, and then worked for three years as historian/curator at the historic Craik-Patton House Museum in Charleston, and recently retired after nearly 20 years as Historian at the West Virginia State Archives and History Library.

## SCOTT C. PATCHAN

**SCOTT C. PATCHAN** is the author of many articles and books, including *The Forgotten Fury: The Battle of Piedmont* (1996), *Shenandoah Summer: The 1864 Valley Campaign* (2007), *Second Manassas: Longstreet's Attack and the Struggle for Chinn Ridge* (2011), *The Battle of Piedmont and Hunter's Raid on Staunton* (2011), and *The Last Battle of Winchester: Phil Sheridan, Jubal Early and the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign* (2013). He has also written feature essays for *Blue and Gray Magazine* on Cool Spring, Rutherford's Farm and Second Kernstown, Third Battle of Winchester, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek and two volumes on Second Bull Run. He has also written extensively for *Civil War Magazine*, *North South*, *America's Civil War* and other historical publications. Scott has twice served as President of Bull Run Civil War Round Table, a member of the Kernstown Battlefield Association's board of directors from 2000-2014, and worked extensively on the interpretation of the Third Winchester battlefield for the Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation. He has completed editing the journal of Colonel Joseph Thoburn, which will soon be released, and is continuing his work on the Valley Campaigns. He is also a much sought tour guide at both Civil War and Revolutionary War era sites from New York to Georgia.

## ETHAN S. RAFUSE

**ETHAN S. RAFUSE** recently received his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and is professor of military history at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. In 2018-19 he was the Charles Boal Ewing Distinguished Visiting Professor of History at the U.S. Military Academy. His published works include *Antietam, South Mountain & Harpers Ferry: A Battlefield Guide*, *Stonewall Jackson: A Biography*, and *McClellan's War: The Failure of Moderation in the Struggle for the Union*.

## RICHARD WOLFE

**RICHARD WOLFE** was born in Morgantown, West Virginia. He spent 26 years in the Marine Corps, retiring as a Major in 1998. He has been a long time student of the American Civil War especially as it relates to West Virginia. Rick is associated with the Clarksburg Civil War Roundtable, Morgantown Civil War Roundtable, and is President of Rich Mountain Battlefield Foundation. Since retiring, from the Marine Corps, he has worked in the Information Technology field with The Department of Justice. In December 2013, he retired from Lockheed Martin.