



The One Mountain Foundation and the Fort Ritchie Community Center co-hosted the premier of a new Historical Entertainment production titled *Ten Days and Still They Come: The Battle of Monterey Pass* on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at the Fort Ritchie Community Center in Cascade, Maryland. Over 200 folks attended the event. The program included:



great music  
 by the  
 Susquehanna  
 Travelers;



historical background on the battle by General Robert E. Lee, CSA, and by John Miller, Chairman, Monterey Pass Battlefield Committee. Period readings of civilian and soldier letters describing personal experiences both before and during the battle were given by Alicia Miller of the Monterey Pass Battlefield Committee and Bob Spence, Executive Director, Fort Ritchie Community Center. Alicia read from the diary of Miss Lutie Kealhofer, a 23-year-old who lived in Hagerstown in 1863. Bob read a letter from Capt William Wilken, Company F, 1<sup>st</sup> West Virginia Calvary, to his wife

describing the fighting by the Union forces during the Battle of Monterey Pass and the Confederate retreat, his capture in Hagerstown, imprisonment in Richmond, and subsequent release.



Tom Riford, President/CEO of the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau welcoming attendees. "People should hear this story from near and far. The Battle of Monterey Pass is a story that ought to be told. Just think — the war could have ended right here if the Union would have been successful at stopping the Confederates' retreat back into Virginia."

Janet Pollard, Director of Tourism, Franklin County Visitors Bureau said in her welcoming remarks: "I want to thank all the people here tonight, because you are the ones that make this a worthwhile event, and it's great to recognize the second largest battle fought on Pennsylvania soil during the war." The Sons of American Legion Post 239 provided food and refreshments.

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, portrayed by Al Stone, gave visitors a personal insight into how he felt during the Civil War and the events surrounding the Gettysburg Campaign, which lasted for 30 days, only three days of which were actually fought in Gettysburg. "Monterey Pass was the shortest path back to Williamsport, Maryland, where we could cross the Potomac River back into the safety of Virginia," he said. "You folks have a treasure here, and I applauded everyone's efforts in this area for their attempts to preserve the land and shed light on the importance of this particular battle."





Russ Richards, CEO Historical Entertainment said: "There is a whole lot more to the Gettysburg campaign than just three horrific days! Historical Entertainment wants nothing less than to tell the complete story of Lee's withdrawal from Gettysburg and the ten-days of battles that followed. Monterey Pass is just the beginning in what we plan will be a complete day by day series of documentaries on the lesser known battles such as Smithsburg, Boonsboro, Hagerstown and Williamsport to name only a few. Every child in Washington County should know this story as this is when the war came their way! These horror filled days brought the war not just to the soldiers but to nearly every resident of Washington County ."

Memorabilia and historic artifacts were on display throughout the evening.







And many attendees got in the spirit of the event by dressing in period clothing.



The One Mountain Foundation would like to thank all the attendees and participants for making this evening not only educational, but fun. All those who came in period dress made one feel as if they

were back on the mountain and the date was 1863. And a special thanks goes out to those who shared by showing their historic artifacts.

Thanks also goes out to the Fort Ritchie Community Center and its staff, the Sons of the American Legion Post 239, and the volunteers from the Board of Directors of the One Mountain Foundation.

Copies of the DVD *Ten Days and Still They Come: The Battle of Monterey Pass* are available for sale for \$20.00 each plus postage. Please contact one of the Board Members or send an email to [info@onemountainfoundation.org](mailto:info@onemountainfoundation.org) with your request.