## AHEC presents, 'Gettysburg: Whose hallowed ground? The Farms that became a battlefield"

AHEC presents: Free, public military history lecture

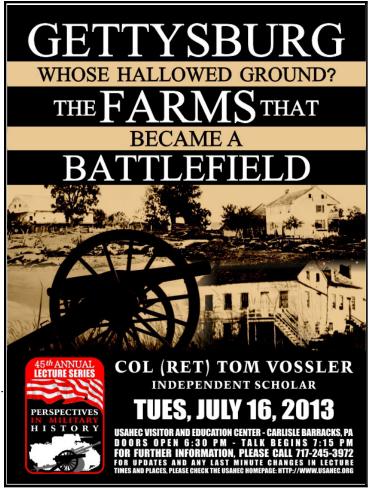
"Gettysburg: Whose Hallowed Ground? The Farms that Became a Battlefield"

The residents of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania woke up to a nightmare in the early days of July, 1863: an

intense, bloody battle in your 'back yard' being fought between two of the world's largest armies.

Author and historian Tom Vossler is guest speaker at AHEC's next Perspectives in Military History, Tuesday, July 16 at 7:15 p.m., sharing stories of the men and women who happened to live on the 6,000 acre site of the bloodiest battle of the American Civil War. Vossler will focus on these men and women both before and during the battle, as well as their continuing battle with State and Federal governments for financial reimbursement for the hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage to property and real estate.

On the morning of July 1, 1863, the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia and the Union Army of the Potomac clashed at the



crossroad town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Both forces suffered horrific numbers of casualties, but the Federal troops forced the Confederates to retreat from the battlefield. Often overlooked are the some thirty-eight farms and homesteads located on the rolling ridges, swales, and fields upon which the battle was fought, as well as the people who owned the land.

Tom Vossler, combat veteran and retired U.S. Army colonel, is a former director of the U.S. Army Military History Institute and a licensed battlefield guide. He leads more than 100 battlefield tours and leadership seminars each year. His presentation is based on his June 2013 book, <u>A Field Guide to Gettysburg</u>, published by the University of North Carolina Press.

The Army Heritage and Education Center will open its doors at 6:30 PM. Parking is free and the museum store will be open. For more, visit www.usahec.org, or call 717-245-3972.

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