

## Civil War Road Show a big hit at Ephrata library

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BY THE EPHRATA REVIEW

Last weekend, the Pennsylvania Civil War Road Show arrived at Ephrata Public Library, bringing interactive exhibits and special programming on the Civil War in Pennsylvania for the 150th anniversary of the Civil War (2011-2015).

Based in a 53-foot expandable trailer, the road show told the compelling personal stories of the many different ways Pennsylvanians experienced the Civil War, both on the home front and the battlefield, through interactive features including stereoscopic photographs, original compositions of Civil War-era music and sound effects, hands-on objects, and animated stories.



The Civil War color guard stands in position at the Ephrata Public Library's Civil War Road Show event this past weekend. (Stan Hall)

EPL Director Penny Talbert said the turnout was tremendous.



"We saw close to 500 people go through the Road Show and over 1,000 people at Civil War-related programs,"

Throughout the four-year anniversary, the Road Show will travel to all 67 counties in Pennsylvania. Ephrata Public Library featured special presentations of re-enactors, authors and lectures.

Visitors to the Road Show who entered the trailers were treated to a vast array of information and interactive educational media. (Stan Hall)



Civil War Dance Foundation participants in vintage

"We had about a dozen encampment re-enactors and at least a dozen re-enactors who entertained the crowd," Talbert said. "Highlights included Patrick Falci, the actor who portrayed General A.P. Hill in the movie

costume enjoy a dance at the library. (Stan Hall)

'Gettysburg;' The  
Susquehanna Travelers,

musicians specializing in Civil War era music; and a program about the Underground Railroad in Lancaster County and southeast Pennsylvania with Randolph Harris."



Civil War officers pause during last weekend's event (left to right) an unidentified lieutenant, Brigadier General Armistead, General John Rawlins, Colonel John Mills. (Stan Hall)

The visit to Ephrata was a partnership with the library and the Historical Society of Cocalico. Supporting partners include the Pennsylvania Heritage Society, the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, the Borough of Ephrata, the Lancaster Civil War Roundtable, and the Pennsylvania Dutch Convention and Visitor's Center.

"We are very pleased with the community support and participation," Talbert continued. "It shows, yet again, the value of good libraries to their communities."

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