

Title of Session: LOC Learning Page Chat - Civil War

Moderator: Leni Donlan

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LeniD: Hello everyone Good to see you here!

MichaelH: Welcome to tonight's Learning Page Chat

MichaelH: I've been waiting for this one for quite a while, and Leni has bunches of stuff to show us,

MichaelH: so, without further adieu...

MichaelH: let's start with introductions from everyone

LisaHS: I am Lisa and I am from the New Orleans area

MichaelH: would everyone tell us who you are, and where you're located?

StephaniLa: I'm Stephanie from Arkansas.

BonnieRJ: Bonnie from Brevard, NC

HerschelS: I'm Herschel from Los Angeles

MichaelH is a social studies teacher and independent lesson consultant from southern Indiana

SusanR: Sue from Ottawa, Canada

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler and I grew up in New Jersey. I help teachers with math and science and technology and I've been to the Library of Congress

LeniD: Leni Donlan, Educational Outreach staff, Library of Congress...DC.

LeniD: Linda? Jeff?

MichaelH looks to see if anyone else is ready to sign in, please

MichaelH: Leni, looks like we're ready for resources

LeniD: Then here we go...!

LeniD: Though history tells us that Lincoln tried to hold the nation together, by April 12, 1861, it had become irrevocably divided.

LeniD: This is an interesting time in our nation's history. Many Americans today feel that we are becoming an increasingly divided nation, too.

LeniD: What issues divide our nation, today?

LisaHS: Social Security? (LOL)

DavidWe agrees as he was recently in the northwestern United States

MichaelH: race still does, 140 years after the Civil War

Herschels: the war in Iraq

LeniD: What else?

Herschels: immigration policy

MichaelH: probably the division between rich and poor?

LisaHS: Affirmative action quotas

BonnieRJ: Role of gov in private lives of individuals

JamesAG: I would say that we are becoming more separated by class.

LeniD: How do you deal with students' need to discuss issues such as these?

LisaHS: Right. Value of Safety versus value of Privacy

Herschels: there will always be some things that divide us

DavidWe: How about World War II, Herschel?

LeniD: True, Herschel.

LeniD: You know the power of considering the parallels in the lives of our forefathers and our lives today....

Herschels: remember the America first committee, Lindbergh?

MichaelH does

DavidWe remembers learning about that

LeniD: It helps students to understand that history is NOT just the boring story of “dead people”...

LisaHS: LOL

LeniD: But is truly the story of people like themselves who confronted many of the same concerns we have today.

DavidWe thinks there ARE a lot of dead people in history, though

LeniD: David's right, of course :-0

DavidWe . o O (well, naturally, but thanks, Leni)

JimB: So, having student read letters of a CW soldier and seeing how their lives parallel their own

LeniD: Now...off my soapbox and into tonight's topic!

LindaU thinks the separation goes beyond class and economics, but also culture and ethnic origin.

DavidWe agrees with Linda

LeniD: I agree, too, Linda.

MichaelH listens to Leni....

LeniD: With the shots fired on Fort Sumter, the United States entered a devastating Civil War. The Library of Congress offers depth and breadth of digital content that can make studies of this time period quite fascinating.

DavidWe: I've read some of them, Jim

LisaHS: Yes. Some identify with their ancestors' homeland and others prefer to think themselves as American only

LeniD: Buckle up.... Ready???

MichaelH fastens his seatbelt....

DavidWe nods

StephaniLa: Ready

JimB: click

Herschels: could you say something about American memory, nara and their relationship with the library of congress

LeniD: Let's start with this Learning Page feature presentation - The American Memory Timeline: Civil War and Reconstruction. It provides a nice framework AND points to treasures from the Library's holdings.

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/features/timeline/civilwar/civilwar.html>

LeniD: Selected Civil War Photographs. I'm going to take you to the collection through the Learning Page collection connection...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/collections/cwp/index.html>

LeniD: Or...

LeniD: This collection connection....

LeniD: talk about humanizing history...

LeniD: Poet at Work: Recovered Notebooks from the Thomas Biggs Harned Walt Whitman Collection

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/collections/ww/index.html>

David We can't imagine a better introduction to the Civil War than the Ken Burns film

LeniD: Yes, it is excellent.

JimB: may I ask a question?

LeniD: Of course, Jim?

JimB: What is the copyright on the photos if I want to use them in a PPT?

JeffC: Fair use should cover them for educational uses Jim.

StephaniLa: Good question, Jim.

LeniD: For classroom use, they are pretty much for use as you wish. It's when you want to use them for many classes that you need to consult us

LeniD: Right, Jeff.

HerschelS: what about their use for commercial purposes?

JimB: No, I give presentations on using technology to teach the CW

LeniD: For commercial purposes, you need to check the copyright statement within the specific collection, Herschel.

HerschelS: thanks

LisaHS: You want to star in a civil war commercial? (Just kidding)

LeniD: The Library does not and cannot give you permission to use content

LeniD: moving on...

LeniD: Take a look at Civil War Maps (again through a collection connection).

LeniD: How might you use these resources in your classroom?

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/collections/cwmaps/index.html>

JimB: compare them with modern maps

MichaelH: oh, I think there are a lot of connections, Leni

JimB: and discuss the changes

LeniD: Definitely!

LeniD: Did you try the zoom technology?

MichaelH: for example, think of the closeness (geographically) between Union and Confederacy

LeniD: Yes, good strategy, Michael

MichaelH is less than 70 miles away from a slaveholding state that remained loyal to the Union

JimB: to analyze why certain battles were fought at certain locations

JimB: multiple roads to Gettysburg for example

LeniD: Yes, Jim...another excellent strategy.

MichaelH: maybe to look at union/confederate strategies to win the war?

MichaelH: . o O (Anaconda strategy, for example)

HerschelS: What about resources, transportation systems etc

LeniD: Hmmm... Michael's secret historian side is showing

LeniD: Definitely, Herschel!

MichaelH: you dance with what brung ya, Leni

LeniD: LOL

DavidWe smiles

LeniD: DID you try the zoom technology? You can all but see inside rooms in some of those maps!

JimB: the map of the railroads is an excellent example

HerschelS: Does the library use any GIS technology

MichaelH has seen the zoom feature before... very, very cool

LeniD: We haven't really done so to my knowledge, Herschel, though we have worked with other agencies on their GIS projects.

LeniD: And what about the president with whom we associate the

LeniD: Civil War

LeniD: visit...

LeniD: The collection connection - Abraham Lincoln Papers at the Library of Congress

JimB: my 7yr old's favorite president

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/collections/papers/index.html>

LeniD: He is the favorite of many people, Jim

MichaelH: he IS such a complex figure...

JimB: Younger students enjoy learning about how Lincoln grew up. They are also fascinated about how a young girl told him to grow a beard

MichaelH . o O (Lincoln... not Jim's seven year old...)

LeniD: His folksy image is very appealing to young people.

LeniD: Here's a wonderful collection...chock full of photographs, drawing, posters and letters that document the lives of real people who were involved in the Civil War...

LeniD: Civil War Treasures from the New-York Historical Society... Be sure to look at the special presentation: Before, During and After the Civil War!

MichaelH: Lincoln crossed into Illinois about three miles from where I am sitting right now...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/nhihtml/cwnyhshome.html>

LeniD: He is very near and dear to your community, I'm sure, Michael!

MichaelH: Well, not as much as George Rogers Clark, Leni, but he is up there...

MichaelH: we named our high school after him...

LeniD -)

LeniD: How about this collection...

LeniD: Washington During the Civil War: The Diary of Horatio Nelson Taft, 1861-1865

LeniD: ...once again, a memorable special presentation, The Washington Diary of Horatio Nelson Taft, will help humanize the events and people of this era.

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/tafthtml/tafthome.html>

JimB: when you reference photos from the period, do you always use the photographers description? For example, Alexander Gardner photos of dead at Gettysburg near the Rose woods where he lists them as soldiers from Iron Brigade.

LeniD: We do use the language of the time, and the words of those who contributed them.

DavidWe needs to go to Gettysburg sometime

JimB: going this weekend

JimB:

DavidWe: Geez, you live closer, I think

JimB: 3 hours

DavidWe nods

MichaelH listens to Leni for more resources

MichaelH smiles

DavidWe grins at Micheal's subtlety

LeniD: I think I'm lost

LeniD: Did I show you this already?

DavidWe laughs

DavidWe: Sorry, Leni

MichaelH: Leni, you just left off with the Taft Home

LeniD: documents the experience of Captain Tilton C. Reynolds of the 105th Regiment of Pennsylvania And this one, Civil War Soldier in the Wild Cat Regiment: Selections from the Tilton C. Reynolds Papers ...

LeniD: documents the experience of Captain Tilton C. Reynolds of the 105th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers through correspondence, photographs, and other materials dating between 1861 and 1865.

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/tcrhtml/tcrhome.html>

LeniD: ?

MichaelH thinks Leni is back on track

JimB: 105th is the Wildcat Regiment right

LeniD: Very true!

DavidWe . o O (which one, "lost" of "Wildcat"?)

LeniD: Right, Jim.

LeniD: And of course, the Civil War was about slavery...its costs and its tolls.

LeniD: This collection, Voices From the Days of Slavery: Former Slaves Tell Their Story, will introduce a voice sometimes not heard in studies of this era.

LeniD: Be sure to visit the Essay (linked on the left), Faces and Voices from the Presentation.

LeniD: Think about how you might use these materials...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/voices/>

MichaelH: Leni, is this related to the Slave Narratives? (what was that, WPA?)

JimB: then students could research engagements of the 105th

LeniD: Yes, Michael. Works Progress Administration.

LeniD: Yep...that would be a plan, Jim

JimB: <http://www.hikarikat.com/105thpvi/history.html>

LeniD: Thanks, Jim!

DavidWe is constantly amazed by what came out of the WPA project to collect slave narratives - remarkable project

StephaniLa: The slave narratives are amazing.

LeniD: They are, Stephanie...marvelous material.

LeniD: And we can't forget the music of the time! It documents social history in a special way.

LeniD: Visit the collection connection, "We'll Sing to Abe Our Song": Sheet Music about Lincoln, Emancipation, and the Civil War, from the Alfred Whital Stern Collection of Lincolniana...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/collections/lincoln/index.html>

MichaelH: this one is cool, Leni

Herschels: is there any music to download and play?

LeniD: I like it too, Michael.

JimB: music of the period is often overlooked

LeniD: Coming right up, Herschel.

DavidWe: well, it's before Elvis, after all

JimB: even though it played a vital role for soldiers and civilians

LeniD: After all!

DavidWe nods

LeniD: Be sure to visit the special presentations in the collection, Band Music from the Civil War Era!

JimB: a soldier's day was regimented by the fife and drum

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwmhtml/cwmhome.html>

StephaniLa: The music was very important to the time.

DavidWe wonders if Jim is a re-enacter

LeniD: Music is very important in any era, isn't it, Stephanie?

StephaniLa: It sure is.

LeniD: And from the Library's Music Division... Patriotic Melodies - When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again

LeniD: <http://leweb2.loc.gov/cocoon/ihis/loc.natlib.ihis.200000024/default.html>

LeniD: There you are, Herschel

JamesAG: Are there sound files of these?

MichaelH is listening to "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" right now...

Herschels: Thank You, I'm getting tired of just midi files

BonnieRJ: It strikes me that the term "sheet music" may not have meaning to present generation.

LeniD: You are right, Bonnie. Another lesson to be learned...and more social history

LeniD: You can learn the history, explore song sheets and sheet music, and listen to this patriotic melody from the Civil War period in...

LeniD: Battle Hymn of the Republic

LeniD: <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cocoon/ahas/loc.natlib.ahas.200000003/default.html>

JimB: ah John Brown's Body

LeniD: How about some Civil War lesson plans?

MichaelH is listening

LeniD: What Do You See? (grades 5-12)

LeniD: A really wonderful lesson for teaching about document analysis, as well as this period...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/97/civilwar/hinesday.html>

LeniD: Do you have budding journalists in your 6th - 12th grade classroom? If so, the Mathew Brady Bunch would be a terrific lesson to try...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/98/brady/home.html>

StephaniLa: I like seeing student work!

LeniD: Yes, I like that, too, Stephanie. Some of our lessons include that

LeniD: And how about viewing this period through the perspective of women?

JamesAG: The Brady lesson can be easily adapted to photos from other eras.

LeniD: Try the lesson, Ladies, Contraband and Spies for grades 10 - 12.

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/01/spies/index.html>

DavidWe . o O (Women!?!)

LeniD: Yep

JimB: another aspect of the war that gets very little coverage

LeniD: So true.

JimB: talking about soldiers usually only engages boys

Herschels: totally cool!!!

DavidWe . o O (Civil War recipes?)

StephaniLa: This is wonderful! Those women deserve the recognition.

JimB: however if civilian aspects are covered then the girls become more involved

JimB: what types of clothes

LeniD: The Civil War touched all people.

LeniD: And don't forget the child's perspective.

DavidWe agrees with Leni

JimB: what girls did

LeniD: In this lesson for grades 6 - 8, students use literature and photographs to view the Civil War from a child's perspective.

LeniD: The Civil War through A Child's Eye...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/99/civilwar/index.html>

JimB: Leni was reading my mind

LeniD: Sometimes I get lucky, Jim

Herschels: New York Draft Riots?

DavidWe: She's good at that, Jim

LeniD: We do have content on that, Herschel. I wasn't planning to share that tonight...but look in our Immigration Feature on the Learning Page for info about that!

Herschels: Thanks

LeniD: You are very welcome

JimB: so you take the photo of the family on the main page and discuss the clothes the little girl is wearing

JimB: and what her life would be like

JimB: no TV

JimB: no gameboy

LeniD: You could definitely do that, Jim.

LeniD: From the American Treasures Exhibition comes...

JimB: discuss schools, courting

LeniD: The Diary of a Confederate Woman

LeniD: <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm135.html>

LeniD: Bring in life at the time in all its aspects, Jim

LeniD: A Civil War Sketch Artist ...

LeniD: <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm041.html>

JimB: Alfred Waud

LeniD: Walt Whitman and the Civil War

LeniD: <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm074.html>

JimB: Very famous photo of Alfred Waud at Gettysburg taken by Gardner

DavidWe: Who was Alfred Waud?

JimB: didn't Whitman go to Antietam to look for his son?

LeniD: Women's War Relief

JimB: Waud was a Harper's Weekly artist

LeniD: <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm161.html>

LeniD: And here I stop!

JimB: Leni, what about info on the Christian and Sanitary commissions

LeniD: All of these resources, and a good deal more, can be found in the Learning Page Community Center, Civil War...

LeniD: http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc_civilwar.php

MichaelH looks at the clock on the clubhouse wall and sees it's about time to say goodbye...

JimB: thanks Leni

LeniD: Jim, I don't know of such information...it would make a good search, though!

StephaniLa: Wonderful information. Thanks Leni.

LeniD: Be sure to join us next month on March 17 at 8:00 P.M. ET. We will be sharing resources about Women's History...Her Story

HerschelS: Thank you so much!

JamesAG: You showed us some great stuff tonight!

LeniD: Thanks, Stephanie. Thank you all for joining us tonight.