

# ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

---

**Jim Morgan** was born in New Orleans, grew up in Pensacola, Florida, and now lives in Lovettsville, Virginia. He is a past president of the Loudoun County Civil War Roundtable, a member of the Loudoun County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee, and serves on the advisory boards of the Mosby Heritage Area Association and the Thomas Balch History and Genealogy Library in Leesburg. He also is chairman of the Friends of Ball's Bluff Battlefield and a volunteer guide at the battlefield.

As a re-enactor he has done both Union and Confederate artillery and infantry impressions with several different units. His writings include a brief artillery unit history titled *Always Ready, Always Willing: A History of Battery M, Second United States Artillery, From Its Organization Through the Civil War* as well as his tactical study of Ball's Bluff, titled *A Little Short of Boats: The Battles of Ball's Bluff and Edwards Ferry, October 21-22, 1861*. First published in 2004 and re-issued in an updated edition in 2011, this has been called "the definitive account of Ball's Bluff."

He has written on this and other Civil War topics for the websites of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority ([www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org)) and the Civil War Trust ([www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org)) as well as for *Civil War Times*, *America's Civil War*, *Blue and Gray*, *The Artilleryman* and *The Bulletin of the Loudoun County Historical Society* among others.

Jim served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1969-71 and in the Foreign Service from 1980-86. He holds master's degrees in Political Science from the University of West Florida and Library Science from Florida State University and worked as the Acquisitions Librarian for the State Department's Office of International Information Programs in Washington, D.C. until his retirement in 2014.