

ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

Alan Aimone's interest in Civil War history started in 1962 and jumped from a battlefield visitor, to a reenactor in the recreated 104th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment to an active Chicago Civil War Round Table member to a life-long historical researcher.

Alan had a long career as a librarian specializing in special collections. He is also an accredited senior appraiser with the American Society of Appraisers and remains active in this endeavor. Early in his career, Alan had the unique opportunity to train under E. B. Long, researcher for Civil War historian Bruce Catton and Dee Alexander Brown at the University of Illinois, the noted historian/librarian who wrote the classic books *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* and *Grierson's Raid*.

After completing his graduate work, Alan landed his dream job serving as Rare Book Cataloger, Military Affairs Reference Librarian, and Assistant Librarian Special Collections Division at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. At West Point, Alan was instrumental in maintaining the archival collections, acquiring new historical materials and assisting those doing academic research on military history. His focus has been, but not limited to the Civil War. Alan has been a member and speaker at Civil War Round Tables, as well as many other historical organizations. While at West Point, Alan also assisted local public libraries and was an active board member for historical organizations. He was a founder member of both the West Point Chapter of the Company of Military Historians and the Northeast Historical Archeology. He has been a consultant for the History Channel, historical illustrators and other groups seeking historical accuracy in their projects.

Alan was born in Sycamore, IL, and raised in the Chicago area. When he retired from the U.S. Military Academy library position, he moved to Las Vegas he joined the Las Vegas Civil War Round Table. He continues his activities as an appraiser specializing in archives, books, historical photographs, manuscripts and maps. His hobbies, as one would expect, include reading history, rooting for Chicago professional sports clubs and traveling to historic and scenic locations.