



Grand Opening Events Scheduled for Saturday, October 7, 2006 Anticipated Center Opens Doors and Exhibit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 25, 2006

Contact: Anedra Bourne

804.788.6498

Richmond, VA – Saturday, October 7, 2006, the Board of Directors and staff of the American Civil War Center *at Historic Tredegar*, invite the general public, residents and visitors alike, to the unveiling of the Center’s flagship exhibit, *In the Cause of Liberty*. The permanent 10,000 square foot state-of-the-art, interactive exhibit, is located in the Center’s historic 1861 Gun Foundry. The Center also will incorporate new features including the construction of a pavilion, home to the museum store and visitor welcome area and an adjacent terrace. The construction is more than 85 percent complete. Exhibit installation will begin in August.

The first of its kind in the nation, *In the Cause of Liberty* will explore the American Civil War from three perspectives – Union, Confederate, and African American – while staying true to the Center’s mission “to tell the whole story of the conflict that still shapes our nation.”

In the Cause of Liberty will showcase more than 150 objects from more than 30 premier collections based in places such as Maine and Minnesota, Arkansas and Tennessee. These include artifacts illustrating African American roles in the Civil War from the *John H. Motley Collection*; objects from the Museum of the Confederacy, the Valentine Richmond History Center, the Virginia Historical Society; and never before seen items borrowed from New York’s famed Gilder-Lehrman Institute, to name a few.

Saturday’s grand opening will include indoor and outdoor activities for children, living history demonstrations and period music. Please visit www.tredegar.org for details to follow in the coming weeks.

The Tredegar National Civil War Center Foundation is a 501(c) (3) organization formed to create the first museum and learning center in the United States that will tell how modern America emerged from the Civil War. The Center will show how the dynamic interplay among the three major participant groups in the war – Union, Confederate, and African American – changed the course of American history.

The Center’s mission, “to tell the whole story of the conflict that *still* shapes our nation” is demonstrated through ongoing educational opportunities for all ages with Web-based programs, community dialogs, and leadership studies. The Center is located at the historic Tredegar Iron Works, an 8.3 acre National Historic Landmark on the banks of the James River, which is also home to the Richmond Civil War Visitor Center operated by the National Park Service.

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