

In April 2025, several members of the CMH and the Lone Star Chapter traveled to the Port Hudson State Historic Park in Louisiana to participate as living historians in an Annual School Day event. In addition to being CMH members, James Crawford, Tom Crawford, Dennis Castello, Robert Clark and Danny Surbaugh also belong to the United States Naval Landing Party, a living history group. At the event, they helped educate school children about the Port Hudson battle and the daily lives of both Union and Confederate sailors and marines. Approximately 435 children and 60 adults attended the event. Each group expressed great interest in the displays and asked many questions. The allotted time for each group expired before all of their questions could be answered. Many thanks to James, Tom, Dennis, Robert and Danny for putting on quite a show for the attendees.

Port Hudson is located on the Mississippi River about 20 miles northwest of Baton Rouge, LA. After Vicksburg fell on July 4, 1863, the Confederate garrison at Port Hudson surrendered on July 9th-- after enduring Union attacks as well as a 48 day siege. Port Hudson's surrender meant that Union forces gained control of the entire Mississippi River.





