



[www.cincinnati.org/samepage/](http://www.cincinnati.org/samepage/)

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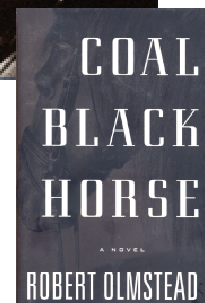
(513) 369-4571

**On the Same Page is a project of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and is made possible in part by the Friends of the Public Library, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Cincinnati Magazine, CET and 91.7 WVXU.**

February 11, 2008

## **2008 On the Same Page Community Reading Program Takes on Civil War Theme: February 24 – March 31**

Now in its seventh year, On The Same Page is an annual community reading event hosted by the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. This year's selection for adult readers is *Coal Black Horse* by Robert Olmstead. Published in April 2007, Olmstead's novel follows a young man through the life-altering landscape of the Civil War. Sent to retrieve his father from the battlefields, he takes a wise and loyal horse to assist him on his treacherous journey. Returning safely back home, he has been forever changed by all that he has seen of war. *Coal Black Horse* was recently selected as the 2007 *Chicago Tribune* Heartland Prize winner for fiction. Set within the time frame of the Civil War, this selection also coincides with the Bicentennial Celebration of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, which will officially begin on February 12, 2008.



### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Robert Olmstead is author of the novels *America by Land*, *A Trail of Heart's Blood Wherever We Go*, and *Soft Water*. He is also the author of a memoir *Stay Here With Me*, as well as *River Dogs*, a collection of short stories and the textbook *Elements of the Writing Craft*. His work has appeared in *Mid-American Review*, *McSweeney's*, *Willow Springs*, *Epoch*, *Idaho Review*, *Cutbank*, *Black Warrior Review*, *Greensboro Review*, *The Vintage Book of Contemporary American Short Story*, *Story*, *Ploughshares*, *The Graywolf Annual 4*, *Granta*, *AKC Gazette*, *Faultline*, *Fiction Writer*, *Writers Digest*, *New York Times Book Review*, *Spin*, and *Sports Afield*.

In addition, Robert Olmstead has been a regular book reviewer and food critic. He has received an Idaho Press Club Award, Honorable Mention O. Henry, Honorable Mention Best American Short Stories, Black Warrior Review Fiction Award, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Literature Fellowship, an APEX award in journalism, National Endowment for the Arts Fiction Fellowship, a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, a Pennsylvania Council on the Senior Arts Literature Fellowship and an Ohio Council for the Arts Literature Fellowship. He is currently the Director of Creative Writing at Ohio Wesleyan University.

- more -

Let On the Same Page take you on an exciting exploration of the Civil War era from February 24 through March 31 by sharing in book discussions and related programs.

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**To kickoff the program a special Civil War History Day will be held at the Main Library (800 Vine St.) on Sunday, February 24. Activities include:**

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|----------------|---|
| 1:00–4:00 p.m. | Meet Robert Olmstead, author of <i>Coal Black Horse</i><br>in the Reading Garden Lounge                     |
| 1:00 p.m.      | Period Music with Russ & Barb Childers  |
| 2:00 p.m.      | Vintage Dance Demonstration with Crossroads Dance Team  |
| 3:00 p.m.      | Period Music with Warren & Judy Waldron<br>in the Huenefeld Tower Room                                      |
| 1:15 p.m.      | Civil War Genealogy with Reference Librarian Albert<br>Hallenberg of the Information & Reference Department |
| 2:15 p.m.      | John Hunt Morgan: Folk Hero of the Civil War with Dr. James<br>Ramage from Northern Kentucky University     |
| 3:15 p.m.      | <i>Blood, Tears &amp; Glory: How Ohioans Won the Civil War</i><br>with author James Bissland                |
| All afternoon  | Civil War Soldier and Sailor from the Cincinnati Museum Center<br>Period children's games & activities      |

**Sponsored by the Friends of the Public Library, Library Programs Fund & the Kersten Fund.  
Purchase copies of *Coal Black Horse* in the Library Friends' Shop.**

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**BOOK DISCUSSIONS:**

- Take part in your choice of more than 20 book discussions about *Coal Black Horse* hosted by the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County at various branch locations throughout March.
- On Friday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m. a special book discussion will take place sponsored by The Association for Psychoanalytic Thought Discussion featuring Mary Frederickson, Ph.D., of the History Department of Miami University, at the Cincinnati Psychoanalytic Institute in Corryville (near University Hospital). Pre-registration required. Please call 513-531-0415 or email AssnPsaThought@aol.com to register.

**MEET AUTHOR ROBERT OLMSTEAD:**

- On Wednesday, March 19 for an author reception and book signing from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library, Atrium (800 Vine Street, downtown Cincinnati).
- Thursday, March 20 for a writers' workshop from noon - 1:00 p.m. at Joseph-Beth Booksellers - Bronte Café (2692 Madison Road in Rookwood Pavilion) or from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Blue Ash Branch Library (4911 Cooper Road).

**RELATED PROGRAMS:**

- Log onto [www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/samepage/](http://www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/samepage/) for the complete list of On the Same Page events including guest speakers who will talk about Civil War history as well as Morgan's Raid, which took place in part in this region. Ongoing updates will be made throughout the program on the site. (See OTSP Event Schedule below.)
- Other highlights will feature a Taste of Civil War Foods based on authentic recipes, period music by Russ & Barb Childers, Civil War genealogy with experts from the Public Library's staff, Civil War tours of Spring Grove Cemetery, and a film screening of *Glory* and the documentary *Horses of Gettysburg*.

**- more -**

**LISTEN TO 91.7 WVXU FOR AN UPCOMING INTERVIEW WITH AUTHOR**

**ROBERT OLMSTEAD:** As part of the On the Same Page program, tune into 91.7 WVXU for a special interview with author Robert Olmstead on Saturday, February 23 during “Cincinnati Edition” from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.

**VIEW CET’S UPCOMING VIDEO WITH AUTHOR ROBERT OLMSTEAD:** As part of the On the Same Page program, watch for an upcoming video featuring a Q&A with author Robert Olmstead in mid to late March at [www.cetconnect.org/partners/plchc/](http://www.cetconnect.org/partners/plchc/) .

**ON THE SAME PAGE EVENTS SCHEDULE:**

- **Sunday, February 24** - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Main Library (800 Vine St.) Civil War History Day: Featuring lectures, readings, period music and dance, a book signing with Robert Olmstead, and Civil War Genealogy. – *see special breakout of activities for this event at the top of page 2 of this press release*
- **March 1–31**  
**Harrison Branch Library** (10398 New Haven Rd.)  
(513) 369-4442  
Display of Civil War memorabilia
- **Saturday, March 1** - 2:00 p.m.  
Symmes Township Branch Library (11850 East Enyart Rd.)  
(513) 369-6001  
The Longest Raid: Gen. John Hunt Morgan’s Raid into Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio with author Lester V. Horwitz
- **Wednesday, March 5** - 7:00 p.m.  
Anderson Branch Library (7450 State Rd.)  
(513) 369-6030  
Cincinnati Civil War History with author Robert Wimberg
- **Thursday, March 6** - 6:30 p.m.  
Cheviot Branch Library (3711 Robb Ave.)  
(513) 369-6015  
A Taste of the Civil War: Sample some foods from the era and watch the documentary DVD, *Horses of Gettysburg*
- **Saturday, March 8**  
Walnut Hills Branch Library (2533 Kemper Ln.)  
1:00 p.m., book discussion  
2:00 p.m., *Glory* film screening  
(513) 369-6053
- **Monday, March 10** - 6:30 p.m.  
Mariemont Branch Library (3810 Pocahontas Ave.)  
(513) 369-4467  
Gen. John Hunt Morgan’s 1863 Raid through Hamilton County with David Mowery of the Ohio Civil War Trail Commission

- **Wednesday, March 12 – 10:30 a.m.**  
Clifton Branch Library (351 Ludlow Ave.)  
(513) 369-4447  
*Coal Black Horse* book discussion
- **Tuesday, March 18 - 7:00 p.m.**  
Green Township Branch Library (6525 Bridgetown Rd.)  
(513) 369-6095  
Gettysburg Through the Lens: Civil War Photography with Jack Simon
- **Wednesday, March 19 - 7:00 p.m.**  
Delhi Township Branch Library (5095 Foley Rd.)  
(513) 369-6019  
Cincinnati Civil War History with author Robert Wimberg
- **Wednesday, March 19 - 6:00 p.m.**  
Main Library - Reading Garden Lounge (800 Vine St.)  
(513) 369-6945 A reception for author Robert Olmstead
- **Thursday, March 20 - Noon**  
Writing Workshop with author Robert Olmstead  
Joseph-Beth Booksellers  
(513) 731-7770  
(Rookwood Pavilion, 2692 Madison Rd.)
- **Thursday, March 20 - 7:00 p.m.**  
Blue Ash Branch Library (4911 Cooper Rd.)  
(513) 369-6051  
Writing Workshop with author Robert Olmstead
- **Thursday, March 20 -7:00 p.m.**  
Madeira Branch Library (7200 Miami Ave.)  
(513) 369-6028  
Gettysburg Through the Lens: Civil War Photography with Jack Simon
- **Saturday, March 22 - 6:30 p.m.**  
Elmwood Branch Library (6120 Vine St.)  
(513) 369-4452  
Civil War Period Music with Russ & Barb Childers
- **Monday, March 24 - 2:00 p.m.**  
Blue Ash Branch Library (4911 Cooper Rd.)  
(513) 369-6051  
Civil War Period Music with Russ & Barb Childers
- **Monday, March 24 - 7:00 p.m.**  
Green Township Branch Library (6525 Bridgetown Rd.)  
(513) 369-6095  
History book discussion group, *Coal Black Horse*

- **Tuesday, March 25** - 7:00 p.m.  
Westwood Branch Library (3345 Epworth Ave.)  
(513) 369-4474  
Civil War Period Music with Russ & Barb Childers
- **Wednesday, March 26** - 6:30 p.m.  
Harrison Branch Library (10398 New Haven Rd.)  
(513) 369-4442  
Civil War Period Music with Russ & Barb Childers
- **Thursday, March 27** - 6:30 p.m.  
Sharonville Branch Library (10980 Thornview Dr.)  
(513) 369-6049  
Civil War genealogy with Albert Hallenberg
- **Friday, March 28** - 6:30 p.m.  
Cincinnati Psychoanalytic Institute  
3001 Highland Ave. Corryville/near University Hospital. Free parking available

A special book discussion sponsored by The Association for Psychoanalytic Thought  
Discussion Leader: Mary Frederickson, Ph.D., of the History Dept. of Miami University  
Advanced registration requested. Please contact Janet Wiehe by phone (513-531-0415) or  
by email at AssnPsaThought@aol.com to register .

- **Sunday, March 30** - 7:00 p.m.  
Memorial Hall, 1225 Elm Street  
**DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN**  
NBC-TV News analyst and Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* will present the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center's Theodore Berry Lecture, "Leadership Lessons from Abraham Lincoln," on Sunday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. at Memorial Hall, Cincinnati. A book signing will follow. Tickets are free but limited. Reservations required. Call 513-369-3166 or email [kjoiner@nurfc.org](mailto:kjoiner@nurfc.org) by March 27. *The Theodore Berry Lecture Series endowed by Convergys and Cincinnati Bell.*

The Freedom Center is joined by these partners in the visit of Doris Kearns Goodwin:  
The Greater Cincinnati Television Educational Foundation-CET, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives; and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

- **Sunday, April 6** - 1:00 p.m.  
Walking Tour of Civil War History in Spring Grove Cemetery  
*Call 513-369-6945 to register*

### **How to Participate in On the Same Page:**

**Step 1:** Pick up a copy of *Coal Black Horse* at your local library or bookstore. Regular print, large print, electronic, and audio (unabridged) versions of the book are available at the Library.  
**Step 2:** Start reading! During the month of February, everyone in the community will be reading.  
**Step 3:** Talk about the book. During March, book discussions will be taking place all over the city. This is your opportunity to share your thoughts and feelings about the title with other members of the community.  
**Step 4:** Attend an event. A variety of special events related to the project will take place in February and March. Keep an eye on the On the Same Page website at [www.cincinnati.library.org/samepage/](http://www.cincinnati.library.org/samepage/) for details and information.