

From Slavery to Freedom: Godfrey Brown's Emancipation

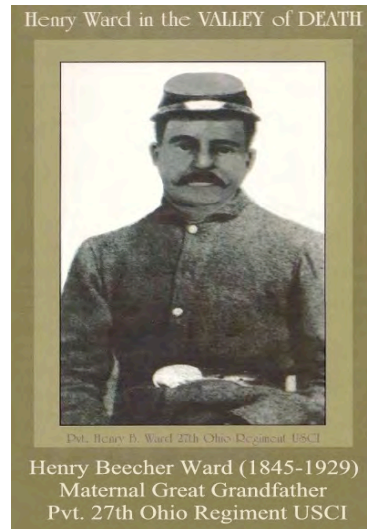
Excellent Speakers Series Program for
African American History Month
&
U.S. Civil War Sesquicentennial (2011-2015)

Presenter **Leon Collins** is a descendent of Godfrey Brown Sr., and tells the story of Brown, from his life as a Negro slave, to his 1820 journey of emancipation from slavery, at age 53, in **Brunswick County, Virginia**, to becoming a free man of color in **Green County, Ohio**. Collins discusses his family's background related to the Underground Railroad and Middle Run Baptist Church, the Civil War, and black troops in the American Civil War. His engrossing, engaging and all too familiar story captures his audience's hearts just as it has his own. Video clips and a PowerPoint presentation complement his talk.

186,097 African Americans (7,122 officers, 178,975 enlisted) fought in the U.S. Civil War.



James Worthington Brown (1845-1920)
distant cousin
Pvt. 27th Ohio Regiment USCI



Henry Beecher Ward (1845-1929)
Maternal Great Grandfather
Pvt. 27th Ohio Regiment USCI



Leon C. Collins attended Howard University and received his Master of Arts in Media Studies from Antioch College. Most recently he was director of Education and Leadership Programs for the Phelps Stokes Fund, North America's oldest continuously operating foundation dedicated to education for human development in the African Diaspora and indigenous communities in the Americas, in Africa, and other underserved and marginalized populations.

His latest project is developing an online, multimedia, learning classroom for *The Michigan Experience – The American Civil War Years*, a production of [iMichigan Productions](http://www.michiganproductions.com), of which he is a co-founder.

Collins is a media producer, documentary videographer, still photographer. He has managed public television and radio stations in Washington, DC, Texas, Michigan, the US Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

For Booking Information
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