

For Immediate Release

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Milwaukee author James Marten to discuss new book on the Sixth Wisconsin Regiment

(MILWAUKEE - March 10, 2025) Acclaimed Wisconsin historian James Marten's new book, *The Sixth Wisconsin and the Long Civil War: The Biography of a Regiment*, offers a fresh perspective on the impact of the Civil War in the Badger State by chronicling the journey of the Sixth Wisconsin regiment from its inception in 1861 through the early 20th century. Find information about the book, Marten and upcoming Wisconsin events at <https://www.facebook.com/AuthorJamesMarten/>.

Utilizing the extensive resources of ancestry.com and hundreds of pension records as well as numerous personal visits to battlefields and archives, Marten tells the story of the war through the experiences of some 2,000 men and their families – before, during and after the Civil War. The book is available from University of North Carolina Press: <https://uncpress.org/book/9781469684239/the-sixth-wisconsin-and-the-long-civil-war/>.

“From the farms of Calumet County and the forests of Pierce County to the emerging industrial city of Milwaukee and the state capital of Madison, we learn how and why men were recruited to fight for the Union,” Marten says. “This also is the story of the women, children and elders who stayed at home during the conflict, then afterwards dealt with the soldiers’ successes and failures.”

Several events are taking place to allow Marten to share his insights into the men of this remarkable regiment and their families. They include:

- **Boswell Books:** Tuesday, April 8, 2025. 6:30 p.m., 2559 N Downer Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53211. www.boswellbooks.com.
- **Literatus & Co:** Saturday, April 26, 2025. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 401 E Main St, Watertown, WI 53094. www.literatusbooks.com.
- **Milwaukee County Historical Society:** Saturday, May 10, 2025, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. 910 N Old World 3rd St, Milwaukee, WI 53203. www.milwaukeehistory.net
- **Kenosha Civil War Museum:** Friday, September 12, 2025, 12 p.m., 5400 1st Ave., Kenosha, WI 53140. <https://museums.kenosha.org/civil-war-museum>
- **Appleton Historical Society:** Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 6 p.m. 128 N Durkee St, Appleton, WI 54911. www.appletonhistory.com.
- **Wisconsin Veterans Museum:** Virtual talk, TBA.

Marten's work speaks to the heart of Wisconsin's rich history and the enduring legacy of its people, offering readers a compelling narrative that bridges the past and present. An accompanying Facebook site provides links to helpful Civil War genealogy sites, profiles of individual men and their families, links to upcoming presentations and virtual events, personal reflections on the book, and other resources. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/AuthorJamesMarten/>

About James Marten

IMPORTANT NOTE: Dr. Marten has limited availability April 9-22.

James Marten is professor emeritus of history at Marquette University. He has written, edited or co-edited over 20 books in two different fields: The Civil War era, and the history of children and youth. He has lectured on these topics throughout the United States and has been interviewed for programs on NPR and Wisconsin Public Radio as well as Channel 10/36 PBS. The Milwaukee resident is active in multiple national historical organizations and is the past president the Society of Civil War Historians and the Society for the History of Children and Youth. More information: <https://www.marquette.edu/history/directory/james-marten.php>



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THE SIXTH WISCONSIN AND THE LONG CIVIL WAR

The Biography of a Regiment

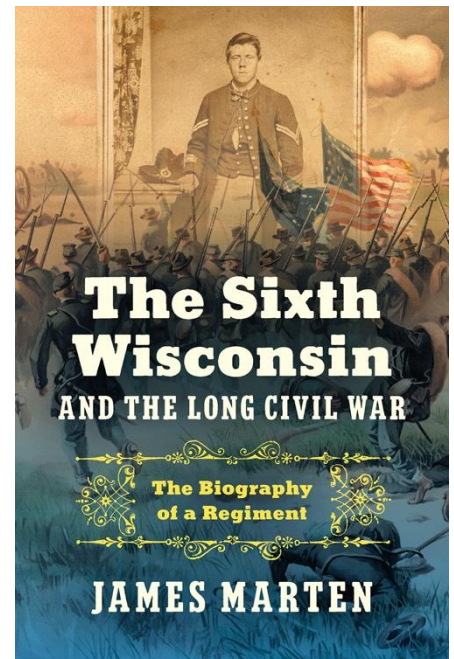
By James Marten

Available April 8, 2025 | \$35.00 hardcover

ISBN 978-1-4696-8423-9 | 304 pp., 6.125 x 9.25, 9 halftones, appendices, notes, bibliography, index

The Sixth Wisconsin Infantry—one of the elite regiments of the legendary Iron Brigade—was at the heart of some of the Civil War’s bloodiest battles, from Second Manassas and Antietam to Gettysburg and the Overland Campaign. But their story did not end in 1865.

In *The Sixth Wisconsin and the Long Civil War*, historian James Marten reimagines one of the oldest genres of Civil War history, using the deeply personal stories of the regiment’s 2,000 men to explore not just the war itself, but its long aftermath. Drawing on an extraordinary wealth of letters, diaries, and records, Marten reveals how these soldiers—along with their families and communities—struggled with the physical and emotional scars of war, long after the battles ended.



From the harrowing realities of combat to the fraught process of healing, *The Sixth Wisconsin and the Long Civil War* brings to life the full experience of war—both on and off the battlefield.

For information about review copies, visit <https://uncpress.org/publicity-contacts/>

Praise for THE SIXTH WISCONSIN AND THE LONG CIVIL WAR

“In clear and accessible language, Marten makes complex military maneuvers and historical context easily understandable for both scholars and general readers. The book’s writing style blends academic rigor with narrative genius.”

— Lawrence Mello, [Library Journal](#)

"Marten skillfully recaptures the world of the Sixth Wisconsin regiment in all its diversity. He deftly handles military operations and combat with just the right combination of strategic and tactical detail. And he vividly recaptures the humanity of the common soldier, from suffering to frolic and from remembrance to recrimination. This is an outstanding piece of work by a historian of great depth and range. It should become the gold standard for any work on a Civil War regiment."

— George C. Rable, University of Alabama

"James Marten's **The Sixth Wisconsin and the Long Civil War** strips the gloss from our memory of the Civil War and brilliantly provides readers the gritty reality of the soldiers' experience and the terribly high price paid to preserve the Union and destroy slavery."

— D. Scott Hartwig, author of *I Dread the Thought of the Place*