



Leon Vaughan

54th Massachusetts

Come hear Leon talk about the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry this highly decorated unit and the first unit of northern Black men to participate in the Civil War.

About our Speaker:

Leon is a retired New Jersey State employee and a Civil War reenactor. He became a reenactor after being urged by a co-worker, a member of a confederate unit, to attend an event. After 2 years of urging, he finally attended an event, the Battle of Saylor's Creek. What he experienced in that one afternoon was enough to convince him to be a reenactor.

For more than 20 years Leon has been a member of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, Company B, Reenactors of Washington, D.C. The unit was formed by several Black men who were part of a National Park Service Project and other Black men who played the part of Civil War soldiers in the movie "Glory". This unit was one of the first African American reenactor units as a hobby.