I’ve rubbed elbows with Buck Zaidel at many Civil War shows over the years. Unfailingly polite and always ready with a friendly word, his enthusiasm for images—especially Connecticut’s citizen soldiers—is infectious. After learning that he and historian Dione Longley had teamed up to author a book about Connecticut during the war years, I eagerly awaited the result.

I was not disappointed. *Heroes for All Time: Connecticut Civil War Soldiers Tell Their Stories* is a fitting sesquicentennial tribute to the 50,000-plus volunteers who served between 1861-1865. The handsome, coffee table-sized volume draws extensively from Zaidel’s impressive collection. One of the most powerful images is a quarter-plate tintype of Charles Hallock of the 5th Connecticut Infantry. Hallock sits slightly forward with hands resting upon his knees, his clothes and the rakish tilt of his hat leave no doubt that he is a seasoned veteran. Beside him sits 15-year-old Jimmy John, a displaced slave adopted by the regiment, and Hallock in particular. John, appearing uncertain and tentative, is one of the millions of freedmen who would make the transition from slave to citizen. (The image of John and Hallock, and a selection of other photographs from *Heroes*, begins on page 24.)

Historian Longley's narrative is accessible and informative, and establishes a context to better appreciate the portraits. Period artwork, maps, newspapers, other ephemera and personal items also illustrate the text.

Still, the moving wartime images of soldiers and their stories of tragedy and triumph are the heart and soul of *Heroes*. And though they offer a distinctively Connecticut perspective, they also speak to the larger Civil War experience, and thus should appeal to photo and military collectors and those with an avid interest in Civil War and American history.