

The ANGLE

JULY/AUGUST 2009

A bimonthly publication of the Civil War Roundtable of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
Visit us online at cwrgettysburg.org

America has no north, no south, no east, no west. The sun rises over the hills and sets over the mountains, the compass just points up and down, and we can laugh now at the absurd notion of there being a north and a south. We are one and undivided.

– Sam Watkins,
1st Tennessee

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BOARD MEMBERS

Dave Collins, Pat Fairbairn, Al Ferranto, Linda Joswick, Gerry O'Brien, Larry Sherfy, Joe Mieczkowski (past President)



Impending Actions

Information and details about upcoming Gettysburg Roundtable presentations.

JULY 2ND

SPECIAL TOUR

Actor **Pat Falci** discusses A.P. Hill and revisits the scene of Picketts Charge and talks about the movie *Gettysburg*.

Meet at 3rd Corps (CSA) Monument on West Confederate Avenue, south of McMillan Woods at 6 PM.

JULY 23RD

SUMMER BATTLEFIELD WALK

Deb Novotny will give a brief history of the establishment of Evergreen Cemetery and the Gatehouse. She will then conduct a tour to the

graves of about 20 notable civilians from Gettysburg and the soldiers that Elizabeth Thorn buried in July and August. The walk will last from 2½ to 3 hours and will be mostly on level terrain. If it happens to rain on my date, I am preparing a Power Point presentation that can be held at the GAR Building.

AUGUST 27TH

SUMMER BATTLEFIELD WALK

Stu Dempsey's walk will cover the ground where Ames' Brigade fought. Meet at the Adams County Agricultural & Natural Resources Center ("AG Center") 670 Old Harrisburg Road at 6 PM.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

For those tours that involve traversing the battlefield, all participants are advised to wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for extensive walking over rough, uneven ground with many different types of tripping hazards.

From September to May, we meet on the fourth Thursday of the month at the GAR Building, 53 East Middle Street. Light refreshments and conversation starting at 7:00 PM., and the featured program beginning at 7:30 PM.

Our June, July, and August summer meetings are in the field starting at 6:00 PM, with the meeting location announced in the bi-monthly newsletter and on the roundtable website: www.cwrgettysburg.org.

Whenever treacherous weather is predicted, the CWRT President and Vice President shall determine by Noon on that day whether the program should be cancelled or not. Announcements will be made on television station WGAL and radio station WGET 1320.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting begins at 6:30 PM on Thursday, July 10, 2009 at the Avenue Restaurant.

It was in 2001, having just moved to Gettysburg, that a neighbor asked if I wanted to go to a meeting of the Civil War Roundtable.

Being new in town and a Civil War buff I figured it would be a good way to learn more about the war and meet people. Little did I realize that eight years later I would be president of that same Roundtable.

As my predecessor, Joe Mieczkowski, is fond of saying. The Gettysburg Civil War Roundtable is the most important Roundtable, in the most important small town, at the most important battlefield, in the most important country in the world.

That said, it is important that we continue to provide great programs and field trips to our members.

Bill Hewitt, our new Vice President, is hard at work lining up some very impressive speakers for our upcoming meetings, our trip committee is well underway planning our field trip for 2010 and Dave and Linda Joswick, who have done a great job on our newsletter and website are planning to give our web site a major face lift.

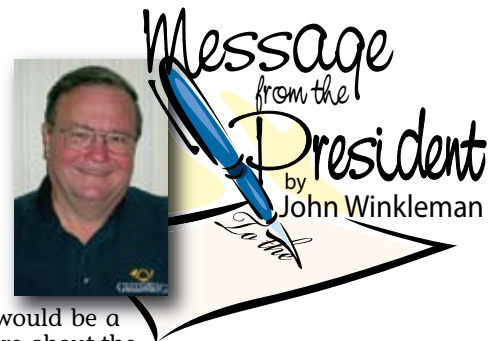
A president's job can be very rewarding if he has good officers and support and in this regard I am very fortunate in having some very talented and dedicated people to work with. But while the leadership of the roundtable will continue to provide interesting programs I would also like to hear from the membership. If you have any ideas for programs, field trips or anything else that you feel could enhance our meetings or benefit the Roundtable please let me or any of the officers know what you'd like to see.

With the summer season underway I hope everyone will take advantage of our field programs in July and August. While photos, maps and indoor programs are helpful, here at Gettysburg we have the best teaching tool available, the battlefield itself. If you really want to understand what happened here you have to get out and walk the ground and see what those men saw 146 years ago.

In closing I would like to thank our outgoing president, Joe Mieczkowski, and vice president Pat Fairbairn for the terrific job they have done for the past two years. Guys, your going to be a tough act to follow but I'll do my best.

Have a great summer and I hope to see many of you on the field.

John




Gettysburg RT adopts 2 Confederate soldiers

Contributed by JoyceAnn Deal

Following the Gettysburg Civil War Roundtable's recent Baltimore trip, the board has decided to participate in the **Adopt a Confederate Veteran** program by the Col. Harry W. Gilmore Camp #1388 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans at Loudon Park Cemetery in Baltimore, MD.

The Roundtable "adopted" Capt. John W. Hack of the 9th VA of Armistead's Brigade and Pvt. James C. Weller of the 24th VA of Kemper's Brigade. The gravestones of these two individuals are barely readable. Our donation will cover the costs of a 12" x 12" granite stone to be placed at ground level in front of the original stone at each grave. There will be a dedication ceremony in May of 2010. Detailed information about these two soldiers is available on the roundtable website at: cwrgettysburg.org.

Individuals wishing to participate on their own can get information at: www.mdscv.org/1388 and click on the Adopt a Confederate link. 



Elections were held recently by the Gettysburg Civil War Roundtable to select a new slate of officers and board members. Pictured above in the back row, left to right are: Board member and Past President, Joe Mieczkowski; Treasurer, JoyceAnn Deal; President, John Winkleman; Vice President, Bill Hewitt; Board member, Larry Sherfy. Front row, left to right: Board member, Linda Joswick; Secretary, Chris Mieczkowski; Board member Gerry O'Brien; Board member Al Ferranto. Not pictured are Board members Dave Collins and Pat Fairbairn.

DON'T MISS SIGNAL CORPS WEEKEND

Saturday and Sunday, August 1-2, 2008: 11a.m. to 5p.m.

Pry House Field Hospital Museum, Keedysville, MD

The Pry House Field Hospital Museum and South Mountain Battlefield will join signal forces for live signaling/battlefield communications demonstrations and talks at these locations. The 114th Signal Battalion, Fort Detrick, MD, will have a display, talks and demonstrations of how the Signal Corps and battlefield communications have evolved since its inception just before the start of the Civil War.

NEW FOR 2009!

A night-time torch signal demonstration,
Saturday evening at 10:00 p.m.

Rarely seen, special presentation, Saturday evening only! Come witness this event from Pry house or the Washington Monument. BINOCULARS RECOMMENDED for this event. For more information, call 301-416-2395 or visit us online at www.civilwarmed.org.



The 1st Annual Licensed Town Guide Seminar

A TIME OF TESTING...The Gettysburg Civilians

October 10, 2009

GAR Hall – East Middle Street, Gettysburg
8:00 AM to 4 PM

\$59.00 per person includes Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Lectures and seminar materials.

Space limited – Registration begins June 1, 2009. Forms will be available online at that time.

Visit our website:

www.gettysburgpa.org/guidedtour.htm.

For more information, call 717-339-6161 or e-mail Joanne Lewis: joanne1863@aol.com.



UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND PROGRAMS AT THE GETTYSBURG CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

23 SEP.....	MIKE RILEY	PORTRAYAL OF MAJ GEN JOHN REYNOLDS	GAR HALL AT 7PM
22 OCT	IVAN FRANTZ	PA RAILROAD AND ITS ROLE IN THE CIVIL WAR.....	GAR HALL AT 7 PM
12 NOV.....	MICHAEL WUNSCH	GREAT SANITARY FAIR IN PHILA IN JUNE 1864	GAR HALL AT 7 PM
3 DEC	CHARLIE FENNELL.....	CHRISTMAS IN THE CIVIL WAR (ANNUAL DINNER)	DOBBIN HOUSE
4 FEB 2010	FRED HAWTHORNE.....	MANASSAS TRIP ORIENTATION	GAR HALL AT 7 PM
25 FEB.....	ED BEARSS	INFORMATION TO COME	
25 MAR.....	TED ALEXANDER.....	TWO OPPOSING ARMIES AT ANTIETAM	GAR HALL AT 7 PM
22 APR.....	SUE DOUCETTE	IMPRESSION OF ELIZABETH VAN LEW, LADY AND SPY.....	GAR HALL AT 7 PM

Stuff to do in the area

JULY AUGUST

July 2 Hunterstown 1st annual North Battlefield Cavalry Encampment & 5th annual Walking Tour of the Battle of Hunterstown at the Tate Farm; Gettysburg speakers, demonstrations, music, food, walking tour at 11 a.m. For information call Laurie and Roger Harding, 717-339-0903 or visit www.hunterstown1863.com.

July 3 & 4 Gettysburg *Voices of the Confederacy* living history at the General Lee's Headquarters Museum, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Encampment, demonstrations, artifacts, first person portrayals. For information call 717-334-3141 or visit generalleee@civilwarheadquarters.com.

July 3-5 Gettysburg 146th Anniversary Civil War Reenactment. Battles each day. Massive pyrotechnics for all battles. Extensive living history village and activities tents with presentations all day. New, fife & drum instruction for youths. Saturday dance with 2nd South Carolina String Band for all regiments.

July 4 Gettysburg Living history, *Confederates Take the Shriver House*, 5-9 p.m. Confederates occupy the house, as they did during the Battle. Tour includes period furnishings, attic used by sharpshooters, summer kitchen that was a hospital and saloon. Adults \$8, Children 12 and under \$6. For information call 717-337-2800 or visit www.shriverhouse.org.

July 15 Carlisle Lecture *The Devil's Own Work: The Civil War Draft Riots and the Fight to Reconstruct America*. Perspectives in Military History Lecture Series by scholar Barnet Schecter. U.A. Army Heritage & Education Center, Carlisle. For information and time, visit www.usahec.org.

August 1 & 8 Gettysburg *Songs & Stories of a Civil War Hospital*, Candlelight at Christ Church, at the historic Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, 8 p.m. Period music by professional musicians, poetry, readings from hospital diaries. Free, accessible, air-conditioned, refreshments. For information call 717-334-5212.

August 8 Frederick, MD *Jubal's in the Valley* lecture at Monocacy National Battlefield, 1:30 p.m. by Gail Stephens on the last Confederate offensive in the East. For information call 301-662-3515.

August 14-16 Hanover 5th annual Civil War Living History Weekend at Codorus State Park. Battles, civilian activities, demonstrations, walking tours, Civil War dance, candlelight walking tours, lectures. Registration \$10. Hosted by the 16th Pennsylvania, Co. G. For information, registration, Bruce Yealy, 717-465-7956 or e-mail him: yealyb@hanoverhospital.org.

August 15 Clinton, MD *In Honor of Mr. Lincoln's Music* at the Surratt House Museum at 4 p.m. Music written for and enjoyed by Abraham Lincoln by the ensemble of music historian Doug Jimerson. Free. For information call 301-868-1121 or visit www.surratt.org.

August 22 Gettysburg 15th Annual Civil War Music Muster at Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center lawn, followed by an early evening concert at the Pennsylvania Monument. Free. For information call 717-334-1124, ext. 8023 or visit www.nps.gov/gett.

August 22 & 23 Gettysburg 5th Annual Medical Living History of Society of Civil War Surgeons behind the Pennsylvania Monument at Gettysburg National Military Park. For information e-mail socwsurgeons@aol.com or visit www.civilwarsurgeons.org.

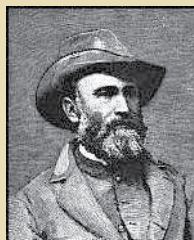
145 Years Ago

9 July 1864: Battle of the Monocacy, Maryland



Some 6,000 men of the Federal Army, gathered from various sources, stood directly in the way of Jubal Early's Confederate advance upon Washington from Frederick, MD. Many of the Federals were inexperienced, untrained, and short-term men. After a stubborn fight, Lew Wallace's pickup force was routed and the march onward was clear for Early.

11 July 1864: Confederates Invade Washington Suburbs



Confederate soldiers were in the environs of Washington. At Silver Spring, MD, Jubal Early's men burned the home of the Blair family as Early tried to determine what sort of defensive troops were in the Federal Capitol.

30 July 1864: Battle of the Crater; Capture of Chambersburg, PA

"A fort and several hundred yards of earth work with men and cannon was literally hurled a hundred feet in the air," wrote a Southern soldier on witnessing "probably the most terrific explosion ever known in the country." For more than a month the 48th Pennsylvania, composed in large part of coal miners, had been digging a 586-foot long tunnel under the 400 feet between the Federal and Confederate lines at Elliott's Salient on the eastern side of the siege lines at Petersburg.



In the morning Confederate Cavalry entered Pennsylvania once more and rode into Chambersburg. They threatened to burn the town unless \$500,000 in currency or \$100,000 in gold be paid. The people could not raise such a sum so the town was fired.

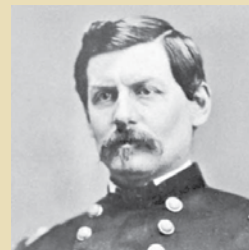
5 August 1864: Battle of Mobile Bay

In the morning Adm. Farragut's Union fleet of 18 ships including four monitors entered Mobile Bay, passing between the fearsome forts guarding the three-mile channel.



31 August 1864

The Democrats balloted in Chicago for the presidential nomination, with Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan receiving 174 votes on the first ballot. George H. Pendleton of Ohio received the vice-presidential nomination on the second ballot.



National Museum of Civil War Medicine

2009 SUMMER Civil War Series

Mark your calendar for every Wednesday evening in July for the *2009 Summer Civil War Series* held at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. The lectures begin at 7:30 p.m.; doors open at 7:00 p.m. There is no charge, but space is limited and is first come, first served.

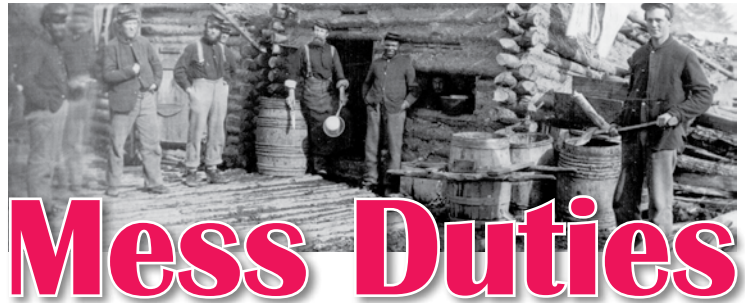
- July 01 **Ballistics: When Bullet Hits Bone**
– NMCWM Executive Director, George Wunderlich
- July 08 **Stuart's Horse Artillery**
– Author Robert J. Trout
- July 15 **Orthopedic Surgery: Now and Then**
– John Rathgeb M.D.
- July 22 **Brother against... insects: The story of insects in the Civil War**
– Entomologist & historian, Dr. Gary L. Miller
- July 29 **Postwar Memorial Activities**
– Executive Director of the Museum of the Confederacy, Waite Rawls

For details on each of these programs, visit the roundtable website: cwrgettyburg.org and click on *Trips/Events of Interest*.

The museum is located in Downtown Frederick, MD at 48 East Patrick Street. For more information or directions, call 301-695-1864. 📞

Got e-mail?

Want to receive your newsletter ahead of traditional mail delivery, and enjoy it in full color? Then join the growing list of members who already receive their newsletter via e-mail. Simply send your e-mail address to Roundtable Treasurer JoyceAnn Deal: jdeal@gettyburg.k12.pa.us, and the next issue will be sent right to your computer on or around September 1, 2009.



Mess Duties

September meeting: Melissa Harvey

October meeting: Bill & Colleen Koslick

Notable Quotables from Pat Fairbairn

"Let me tell you what is coming. After the sacrifice of countless millions of treasure and hundreds of thousands of lives you may win Southern independence, but I doubt it. The North is determined to preserve this Union. They are not a fiery, impulsive people as you are, for they live in colder climates. But when they begin to move in a given direction, they move with the steady momentum and perseverance of a mighty avalanche."

– Texas Governor Sam Houston

"I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

– Abraham Lincoln, March 4, 1861, from his First Inaugural Address

"I can anticipate no greater calamity for the country than the dissolution of the Union. It would be an accumulation of all the evils we complain of, and I am willing to sacrifice everything but honor for its preservation."

– Col. Robert E. Lee, U.S.A. in a letter to his son Custis, January 23, 1861

"That man will fight us every day and every hour till the end of the war."

– Lt. General James Longstreet speaking of Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant upon learning of his appointment as General-in-Chief of the Union Armies