


[CWRTGettysburg] FEBRUARY MEETING

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THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 25, 7:00 p.m.

AUTHOR GENE SCHMIEL: "GENERAL JACOB COX & THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN"



This month's presenter, Dr. Gene Schmiel, had originally been scheduled for our November 2019 meeting, but a combination of snow and ice caused us to cancel. That was disappointing. I was particularly looking forward to his program. Vaguely aware of the Battle of Franklin and John Bell Hood's followup disaster at Nashville, I was anxious to learn more. Happily, we were able to reschedule and I'm even more interested now, having since read Craig L. Symond's, *Stonewall Of The West: Patrick Cleburne & The Civil War*. Cleburne was one of six Confederate generals killed at Franklin, Tennessee, November 30, 1864. Reading from Symond's account of the Secessionist assault on the Union line: "A hundred battle flags decorated the attacking wave of solidery, a wave that was almost two miles wide from end to end. It was half again larger than Pickett's charge and Gettysburg, and the men had twice as far to go to reach the enemy line." And this seems fitting: Among the generals killed that day was States Rights Gist. Yes, that was his given name. It is not too much to say that States Rights died at the Battle of Franklin.

As noted, Gene Schmiel's originally scheduled 2019 presentation was cancelled on account of weather. That won't be an issue this time, as are still meeting online. You can tune into the program via links on our Facebook page and/or website (cwrgettysburg.org). Some have found it easier to go direct to the Zoom Room. Here's that link: <https://zoom.us/j/99711378145?pwd=NGh2aXA3eVM4K3BVNUdkOWRHVUxXZz09>



In other news, given the uncertainty of the coronavirus situation, we've decided to cancel the spring bus trip to Harrisburg. Program Director Roger Heller has arranged for a happy alternative: Dean Shultz is inviting us to his property for a seldom-seen tour of Neil/Lost Avenue. The date is June 5, the time 9:30-noon. While more details will be forthcoming, this will be mask-required program. At this point, the Board has every intention of holding our 4th Thursday evening meetings of June, July and August on the battlefield, returning to the G.A.R. in September. Let's hope....

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