



The **ANGLE** NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

A bimonthly publication of the Civil War Roundtable of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania  
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"You know, the thing that struck me about Civil War music was how bloody it was; it was full of hatred. There was incredible vitriol in it."  
– JOSEPH HENRY "T BONE" BURNETT

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## Impending Actions

Information and details about upcoming Gettysburg Roundtable presentations.

### NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>

#### JACOB COX AND THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN: THE BEGINNING OF THE END FOR THE CONFEDERACY IN THE WEST

The Battle of Franklin dealt a major body blow to the Confederate Army of Tennessee, which suffered its final defeat and resultant dissolution two weeks later at the Battle of Nashville. Confederate commander John Bell Hood launched the Civil War's final major offensive charge that day with 20,000 men attacking 13,000 Union soldiers, most of whom were stationed behind hastily-constructed but formidable barriers.

The Union defensive line at Franklin was commanded and created by General Jacob D. Cox. Cox for his part had learned that "with veteran soldiers now arrayed against each other, one rifle in the trench was worth five in front of it." The defensive line was nearly-impregnable, but a mistake by one of Cox's subordinates allowed the Confederates to penetrate a hundred yards into the center of the line. At that critical time Cox, who had presciently created a second line of defense behind the first, displayed conspicuous leadership and saved the day.

While Hood announced to his men the next day that Franklin was a victory, the author of a superb Confederate memoir, Company Aytch, Private Sam Watkins, wrote later, "I shrink from butchery...My flesh trembles, and creeps and crawls when I think of it today. It was the finishing stroke to the independence of the Southern Confederacy."



**GENE SCHMIEL** is a student of the Civil War whose book, *Citizen-General: Jacob Dolson Cox and the Civil War Era*, was published in 2014. The book was labeled "best biography of the year" by the *Civil War Books and Authors* web-site. Gene holds a Ph. D. degree from The Ohio State University and was an assistant professor of History at St. Francis University (PA) before becoming a foreign service officer with the Department of State. He resides in Gainesville, Virginia with his wife Bonnie Kathryn. ☮☮☮

### DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> – HOLIDAY BANQUET

#### PUSHING DEEPER INTO THE SOLDIER'S WORLD: THE HUMAN ELEMENT IN CIVIL WAR CAMPAIGNING



Even though I'm now retired from the academic life, I still get asked the same question: "So, what's the next big project?" I had no good answer for a long while. In recent months, however, I have rediscovered an abiding interest in what military historians call the "human factors" that help us understand the vast array of challenges that confront soldiers of all ranks—not merely the generals—on the march and on the battlefield. This approach is not a new one, but historians still struggle to get beyond anecdotal evidence to study in a systematic way the impact of exhaustion, hunger, dehydration, sleep disruption and deprivation, fear, and other stressors on the soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Unlike most of my talks that center on the results of my research, I plan this time to share some of my ideas as I begin the research process.



**DR. CAROL REARDON**, a native of Pittsburgh, recently retired as the George Winfree Professor Emerita of American History at Penn State after twenty-five years of teaching military history. A specialist in the American Civil War and the Vietnam conflict, she also held visiting professorships at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the U.S. Army War College. She takes special satisfaction from her fourteen years of service on the Board of Visitors of Marine Corps University. She is the author of *PICKETT'S CHARGE IN HISTORY AND MEMORY* (1997), *WITH A SWORD IN ONE HAND AND JOMINI IN THE OTHER* (2012) and coauthored with Tom Vossler *A FIELD GUIDE TO GETTYSBURG* (2013) and *A FIELD GUIDE TO ANTIETAM* (2016). She is especially proud of recently being named an honorary Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg. ☮☮☮

# Greetings, Friends!

November is here already! This is such a very special time in Gettysburg, with the autumn colors still spreading beauty throughout the battlefield.

So much to look forward to in November! The town is extra busy and bustling, as it ushers in Remembrance Weekend, Thanksgiving, Lighting of the Christmas Tree on the Square, and of course our annual Holiday Banquet at the Historic Dobbin House... great food, great company, and the great Carol Reardon as our speaker! It is also the occasion of announcing the book which will receive the 2018 Distinguished Book Award.



We look forward to the Remembrance Day Parade, which honors the soldiers and civilians of the American Civil War; Remembrance Day evening Illumination, with a candle placed at each of the 3512 Civil War graves in the Soldiers National Cemetery; and Dedication Day, the Anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. This year's keynote speaker will be Gettysburg College President Janet Riggs. We have a very special town!

A heartfelt thanks to all you, the loyal members of our roundtable, and to our amazing board of directors, officers, and support team. Thank you too for your generous donations to our Preservation Fund. We have contributed to some very deserving organizations this year. You will find the recipients on our web page.

Thank you for the lively spirit and conversations you bring to all our meetings. This is what makes our roundtable so special. We were happy to see so many guests attending our meetings this year.

I wish you all a joyous Thanksgiving and Holiday Season, filled with happiness, health, and the warmth and love of friends and family.

*"Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words.  
Keep your words positive, because your words become your behaviors.  
Keep your behaviors positive because your behaviors become your habits.  
Keep your habits positive because your habits become your values.  
Keep your values positive because your values become your destiny."*

- Gandhi

*Lynn*

From September to May, we meet on the fourth Thursday of the month at the GAR Building, 53 East Middle Street. Doors open at 6:30 PM, with the featured program beginning at 7:00 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.cwrtgettysburg.org](http://www.cwrtgettysburg.org).

Whenever severe weather is predicted, program information can be found on the roundtable website and Facebook page after 3 PM or you can call Lynn at 717-398-2072.

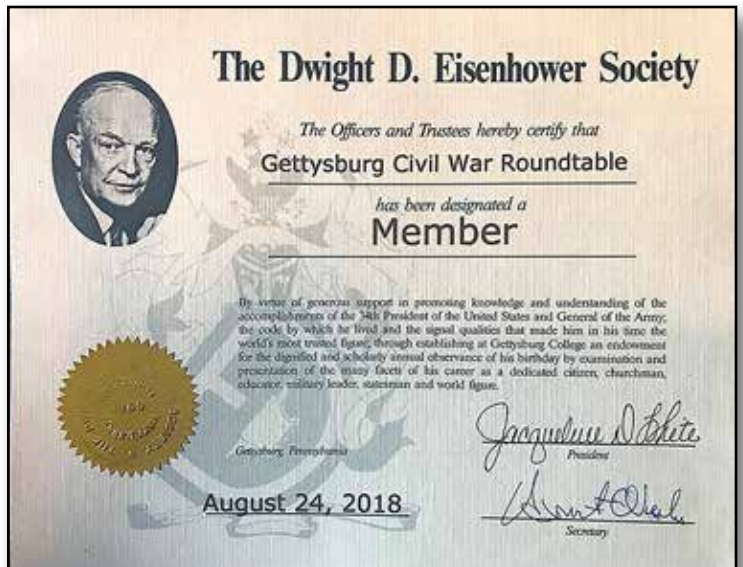
The next scheduled board meeting begins at 6:00 PM on Thursday, November 8, at the Perkins Restaurant on York Street, Gettysburg.

**FYI** In both North and South, potential recruits were offered awards, or "bounties," for enlisting, as much as \$677 in New York. Bounty jumping soon became a profession—men would sign up, desert, and then enlist again elsewhere. One man repeated the process 32 times before being caught.

# NEWS from...round the TABLE



- Back by Popular Demand – Hilda Koontz will be presenting *Unsuspected Heroines: Female Spies in the Civil War* at the Carroll Valley Branch of the Adams County Library on Monday, November 19 at 7 PM. The library is located in the Carroll Valley Borough complex at 5685 Fairfield Road, across from Ski Liberty. The event is free and open to the public.
- Enclosed with your newsletter is a membership form for the upcoming calendar year 2019. This is the form that should accompany your renewal dues. Please get rid of any old forms you may have as this is the only one acceptable. Note, it reflects the current and correct cost for renewal membership: \$30 for individuals and \$45 for a family, as well as prorated amounts for new members joining later during the calendar year.
- Paul Shevchuk, who led our August field walk about Camp Colt, donated his honorarium to the Dwight David Eisenhower Society. The society sent us a gracious thank you note, and has made our roundtable a member.



- Mr. Charles Pike recently passed away and in lieu of flowers, requested donations to our Roundtable. Mr. Pike was not a member but, to date, from his request, we have received four donations totaling \$225. Thank you for your generosity.
- The Book Committee is donating its four volume set *Confederate Dead at Gettysburg* to the Adams County Historical Society.
- In case you're wondering about the menu for the Holiday Banquet: Chicken Cacciatore, Seafood Newburg, Beef Tips Diane, Oven Roasted Red Potatoes, Glazed Sweet Potatoes, Buttered Corn, Green Beans Almondine, Gingerbread with Lemon Sauce, Cherry Crumb Pie, Chocolate Mousse, and 25 Salad Items. Also Baked Breads, Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea, Lemonade, Water. Send in your reservation today.



# UK couple makes return visit to Gettysburg Battlefield

contributed by Lynn Heller

In September, 2017, I had posted a photo on my *Gettysburg Expressions* Facebook page. A fellow named Richard commented that he and his wife had just returned to their home in the UK after a Gettysburg visit. He said they enjoyed it so much they want to come back next year (2018). I asked him what he liked about



**Richard and Debi Downing**

the battlefield, expecting to hear the usual favorites, Little Round Top, Devil's Den, etc. But this is what he wrote:

- “1. The ridges that Buford used for defense...
2. seeing how close it was if the Confederates had attacked Little Round Top earlier...
3. shouting “bayonets” on Little Round Top...
4. walking from the fences towards the Angle following Pickett's Charge...
5. shouting “come on you wolverines” at the cavalry field...
6. the Brick House Inn...
7. Lee's HQ...
8. the people I met...
9. the sunsets...
10. rain on Culp's Hill...
11. last post “Taps” at the cemetery...
12. the monuments...
13. the view from Oak Hill...

14. Devil's Den...
15. walking through the town...
16. sitting on a porch in a rocking chair...oh, I could go on and on.

But if I have to pick one thing it's the wooden zig-zaggy fences!!!!”

They fulfilled their dream and indeed came back this summer! We met up on Labor Day at the Cemetery for the final and spectacular, last night of *100 Nights of Taps*. It was a joy to meet Richard and his wife Debi. And guess what... they're coming back next year! 🍷🍷



## 78th/102nd NY Infantry monument repair update

contributed by Licensed Battlefield Guide Jeff Harding • photos by the author

*ED NOTE: The July/August issue of The Angle ran an article about repairs needed to the 78th & 102nd NY Infantry monument located on Culp's Hill. Licensed Battlefield Guide Jeff Harding is spearheading an effort to raise funds for those repairs. Here is his update.*

“During the week of 15-19 October, restoration work took place on the 78th & 102nd NY Infantry monument located on Culp's Hill. Over the years the monument has suffered a number of instances of damage. Some of the most severe damages were previously repaired but damage remained to the soldiers hat, gun hammerlock, and the end of the gun barrel. The repair conducted last week centered upon repair of the soldiers hat bill.

The monument was originally created by Smith Granite Company in Westerly, Rhode Island, and Westerly granite was used to repair the hat. This restoration was part of an effort recently undertaken by the park to repair a



number of monuments within the park. Indications are that the remaining portions of the 78 & 102 NY monument still in need of repair (hammerlock, end of gun barrel) will be repaired under a separate effort during the next year or two.

Donations can be made to GNMP (Gettysburg National Military Park) or the DOI (Department of the Interior) and earmarked for a specific monument, such as that of the 78th & 102nd. For a detailed review of the history of this monument, including damages and changes made to it over the years, as well as an overview of the two regiments (78th and 102nd) actions during the battle, please see the July 2018 issue of *The Gettysburg Experience*.

Additionally, Jeff is looking for any available photos of the monument taken between 1900 and 1975. If you can help, contact Dave: [art-masters@comcast.net](mailto:art-masters@comcast.net).

Additional photos on page 4

# IN THE FIELD CANDIDS



OUR IN THE FIELD PRESENTATION IN AUGUST WAS LED BY PAUL SHEVCHUK AND CENTERED AROUND DWIGHT EISENHOWER'S BACKGROUND PRIOR TO HIS COMMAND OF CAMP COLT AND THE LAYOUT OF THE TANK CORPS CAMP. HE USED HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS TO EXPLAIN THE MANY STRUCTURES THAT NO LONGER EXIST AND GAVE AN OVERALL NARRATIVE OF ITS NINE-MONTH EXISTENCE. • PHOTOS BY LYNN HELLER.



78th/102nd  
NY Infantry  
monument

