



September 2017 – Winter Campaign 40: Meeting on September 05, 2017

**Annual Karl Lehr Dinner:
A legacy of honor, commitment and generosity.**



As we enter our 40th year we remember Karl Lehr who was truly a renaissance man. He was a teacher, veteran of World War II, a preservationist and a philanthropist. During his time as a member of our Round Table he served our organization in many capacities. His commitment to historic preservation was accomplished through voice, labor and monetary contributions. Karl led a full life and his passing in 2009 at the age of 93 years generated a final gift that will continue to benefit future generations of our great land. A combination of his bequest to our Round Table and matching grants from leading Civil War preservation organizations brought \$463,000 to the cause of historic preservation in 2011. It is because of people like Karl Lehr that our organization became well known and respected in historic preservation circles. We honor Karl's memory tonight at our "Karl Lehr Memorial Dinner."

From the Brigade Commander: Ed Root

Summer has a way of passing all too quickly and this one was no exception. Hopefully everyone is rested and ready to begin Campaign #40 on September 5th. This is a big year for us and we hope to have fun reminiscing about the past and planning new adventures for the future. Along those lines please look for any photos for days gone by

and contact me so we can share them. Also, please consider writing some personal thoughts about people, places or events that struck a chord with you. We've had some great times so share those gems.

Some housekeeping items from last Campaign:

We have great folks who volunteer his or her time and talents. Additionally a number of you have been very generous with financial donations over and above membership dues. This is extremely important as we provide speakers with mileage reimbursement and rooms at the Holiday Inn. Even though our friends at the Inn give us an excellent rate, the cost adds up over the course of the year. As we continue to try and keep dues as affordable as possible this extra income certainly helps covers expenses and affords a greater impact for historic preservation donations. Please know that your support is greatly appreciated.

Bob McHugh has been doing double duty as Program Chair and Publicity Chair. As that's not very fair to him we'd really love for some kind soul to step up and help. Bob will still provide the program notes. We just need someone to help get the information to the right people and follow up. It's very important. Please contact me or see Bob or me at any meeting.

Because of the generosity of our membership as well as the success of our Americans at War Conference we ended our year with a \$4000 donation to the Civil War Trust. Because of matching grants that \$4000 morphed into much much more. Please see Jim Duffy's report elsewhere in this newsletter. There are no losers when it comes to historic preservation donations. We all carry away with us the satisfaction of doing our share to help preserve America's historic sites and collections.

Some thoughts going into this 40th Anniversary Campaign:

We've had a year and a half under our belt now at the Holiday Inn and all reports have been outstanding concerning both the venue and the food. Please join us for dinner and conversation if at all possible. If not, walk-ins for just the program are always welcome with open arms. Bring a friend, acquaintance or even someone you don't know, but bring someone! He or she will certainly thank you.

We have held our annual print raffle for preservation with great success over the years. This year you will have two chances to win nice artwork. Barry Arnold has generously donated an item for which we will draw a winner at our December meeting. We will also hold our end of year raffle in June. ALL tickets will be eligible for the June raffle so it will be a bonus for anyone buying tickets early as you'll have two opportunities to win a great prize.

Claire Kukiela and Barry Arnold have been hard at work planning possible field trip ventures! See their report elsewhere in this newsletter.

We are working with the folks at Union-West End Cemetery in Allentown about a joint conservation effort and tour. Our work last year at Nisky Hill Cemetery in Bethlehem was very successful. Stay tuned for developments!

SAVE THE DATE: Our annual brush cutting venture at Gettysburg will be Saturday, April 21st. The NPS is always grateful for our support and we will again reward our volunteers with a special treat/tour after the work day is over. No excuses **SAVE THE DATE!!**

Check our website often. Many items of interest and information are added that cannot make the newsletter due to the timetable. Paul Bartlett is doing a wonderful job keeping things fresh. <http://www.cwrteasternpa.org/>

See you September 5th – Ed Root, Brigade Commander, sartilly@hotmail.com 610-417-6673



Happy Birthday to Us; Happy Birthday to Us

This year is an ongoing 40th birthday party for our organization. Please help us celebrate by attending and participating. Bob McHugh has arranged a powerful panel of speakers and we plan on having not one but two drawings this year to reward our loyal members and to support preservation with monies raised.

About Our September 05 Speaker, Bruce M. Venter



Bruce Venter's major interest is Civil War cavalry with an emphasis on the career of Union general Judson Kilpatrick. He frequently lectures on the cavalry and has led bus tours on the Kilpatrick-Dahlgren raid, the focus of his book, *Kill Jeff Davis*. In 2012 he participated in a re-enactment of Dahlgren's raid thru Goochland County where he rode with over 80 troopers for three days, serving as their historian. He is a past president of the Richmond Civil War Round Table and currently serves as 1st vice president of the Goochland County Historical Society.

He has published articles in *Blue and Gray*, *Civil War*, *Patriots of the American Revolution*, *Goochland County Historical Society Magazine*, *Washington Times* and numerous professional journals. He is also the author of *The Battle of Hubbardton: The Rear Guard Action that Saved America*.

Venter spent 36 years in public education before his retirement, mostly as an assistant superintendent in school systems in New York, Virginia and Maryland. He holds a B.A. in history from Manhattan College and a master's in public administration and doctorate in educational administration from the University at Albany.

Bruce Venter is president of America's History, LLC, a tour and conference company which he founded in 2010. He lives in

Goochland County, Virginia, with his wife Lynne and their beagle "Sally Seddon."

Dr. Venter's Talk Surrounds Kill Jeff Davis: The Kilpatrick – Dahlgren Raid on Richmond 1864

The ostensible goal of the controversial Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid on Richmond (February 28–March 3, 1864) was to free some 13,000 Union prisoners of war held in the Confederate capital. But orders found on the dead body of the raid's subordinate commander, Colonel Ulric Dahlgren, point instead to a plot to capture or kill Confederate president Jefferson Davis and set Richmond ablaze. What really happened, and how and why, are debated to this day. Kill Jeff Davis offers a fresh look at the failed raid and mines newly discovered documents and little-known sources to provide definitive answers.

In this detailed and deeply researched account of the most famous cavalry raid of the Civil War, author Bruce M. Venter describes an expedition that was carefully planned but poorly executed. A host of factors foiled the raid: bad weather, poor logistics, inadequate command and control, ignorance of the terrain, the failures of supporting forces, and the leaders' personal and professional shortcomings. Venter delves into the background and consequences of the debacle, beginning with the political maneuvering orchestrated by commanding brigadier general Judson Kilpatrick to persuade President Abraham Lincoln and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton to approve the raid. Venter's examination of the relationship between Kilpatrick and Brigadier General George A. Custer illuminates the reasons why the flamboyant Custer was excluded from the Richmond raid.

In a lively narrative describing the multiple problems that beset the raiders, Kill Jeff Davis uncovers new details about the African American guide whom Dahlgren ordered hanged; the defenders of the Confederate capital, who were not just the "old men and young boys" of popular lore; and General Benjamin F. Butler's expedition to capture Davis, as well as Custer's diversionary raid on Charlottesville.

Venter's thoughtful reinterpretations and well-reasoned observations put to rest many myths and misperceptions. He tells, at last, the full story of this hotly contested moment in Civil War history.

Do You KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Answers on Page 7

1. Which Union general was said to have his headquarters where his hindquarters ought to be?
A) General John Pope B) General Ulysses Grant C) General George Meade
D) General Ambrose Burnside
2. Who was the first black to hold a field office command in the Union army?
A) Martin Delany B) Aaron Anderson C) Powhatan Beaty
D) Alexander Augusta
3. Which Southern soldier went by Charlie Hart?

A) John Mosby B) William Anderson C) James Lane D) William Quantrill

4. Who did Abraham Lincoln refer to as Father Neptune?

A) Edwin Stanton B) Simon Cameron C) Williams Seward D) Gideon Welles

Fall 2017 & Spring 2018 Campaign Registration Details

Programs: 2017 – 2018 Campaign

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
September 5, 2017	Bruce Venter	“Kill Jeff Davis: The Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid on Richmond, 1864”
October 3, 2017	Chris Bryce	“Grant’s Crossing of the James and the battle for Petersburg”
November 7, 2017	David Dixon	“The Lost Gettysburg Address”
December 5, 2017	Tim Smith	“Early Photography of the Gettysburg Battlefield”
January 2 or 9? 2018	TBD	TBD
February 6, 2018	Jim Remsen	“Embattled Freedom: Chronicle of a Fugitive-Slave Haven in the Wary North”

March 6, 2018	Tom McMillan	"Gettysburg Rebels: Five Native Sons who Came Home to Fight as Confederate Soldiers"
April 3, 2018	Dave Bastian	"Grants's Canal: The Union's Attempt to Bypass Vicksburg"
May 1, 2018	Carleton Young	"Voices From the Attic: The Williamstown Boys in the Civil War"
June 5, 2018	Dennis Frye	"September Suspense: Lincoln's Union in Peril"

All Members and guests of the Lehigh Brigade are ordered to
Holiday Inn Conference Center Lehigh Valley in Breinigsville
 7736 Adrienne Drive Breinigsville, PA 18031 Phone 610-391-1000

The deadline for accepting dinner reservations is the last Thursday, before the monthly meeting held on the first Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Please note the deadline for making dinner reservations for the September 05, 2017 meeting is Thursday, August 31, 2017.

For dinner reservations and/or information: Contact any of the following:

James Duffy – 610-253- 4549 duffysocwk@aol.com

Carol Detweiler 215-234- 4884 cdetweiler01@comcast.net

Ed Oechsle – 610-882-9228 ehoechsle@ptd.net

Please Remember To Visit Our Website: Our website is a treasure trove of up to date information about not only our Round Table and it' activities, but links to events of interest, research aids and other organizations of merit. Website: <http://www.cwrteasternpa.org/>

ANSWERS FOR DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Quiz on pages 4-5

1. A)
2. A)
3. D)
4. D)

Campaign Print Raffle Prizes for 2017-2018 Campaign Season

December Preservation Raffle Prize

Framed Print of Chamberlin at Little Round Top (7/2/1863) - framed and donated by Barry Arnold



June Preservation Raffle Prizes

Grand Prize- “The Grim Harvest of War” Jackson and the Valley campaign by Bradley Schmehl



Prize 2] Photographs of Union and Confederate Officers in the Civil War in America published by the Civil War Library and Museum. 1996

Prize 3] A Great Civil War by Russell Weigley, signed.

Prize 4] The Gleam of Bayonets by Jim Murfin, signed

Prize 5] time detailed maps of the Chancellorsville Campaign, done by the National Park Service

Prize 6] The South to Posterity by Douglas Southall Freeman

REMEMBER, WHEN YOU SUPPORT PRESERVATION, WE ARE ALL WINNERS!!!

A Woman's Place...Is in the War Taken from The Civil War Trust



There are over 400 documented cases of women disguising themselves as men and fighting as soldiers on both sides during the Civil War. The case of Jennie Hodgers is one of the most famous, because she continued to live as a man after the war and was not discovered until a couple of years before her death.

Hodgers was born on December 25, 1843 in Clogherhead, County Louth, Ireland. Not much is known about her early life, as the only account available was given by Hodgers when she was suffering from dementia in 1913.

This much is certain—on August 6, 1862, Hodgers, a resident of Belvidere, Illinois, enlisted in the 95th Illinois Infantry under the name Albert Cashier. Although she was the shortest soldier in the regiment, and kept mostly to herself, Hodgers was accepted as “one of the boys” and considered to be a good soldier.

Hodgers’ regiment was part of the Army of the Tennessee and fought in over 40 engagements, including the siege of Vicksburg, the Battle of Nashville, the Red River Campaign, and the battles at Kennesaw Mountain and Jonesborough, Georgia. There is an account of Hodgers being captured and escaping by overpowering a prison guard, but no further details of this event exist.

Hodgers served a full three year enlistment with her regiment until they were all mustered out on August 17, 1865 after losing a total of 289 soldiers to death and disease.

After the war, Hodgers returned to Illinois where she settled in Saunemin. She continued to masquerade as a man, and held many different jobs, including farmhand, church janitor, cemetery worker, and street lamplighter. Hodgers even voted in elections (at the time, women did not have the right to vote) and collected a veteran’s pension.

In November of 1910, Hodgers was hit by a car and broke her leg, and her secret was discovered. The local hospital agreed not to divulge her true gender, and she was sent to the Soldiers and Sailors Home in Quincy, Illinois to recover. Hodgers remained a resident of the Home until March of 1913, when due to the onset of dementia, she was sent to a state hospital for the insane. Attendants there discovered her sex and forced her to wear a dress. The press got a hold of the story and soon everyone knew that Private Albert Cashier had been a woman in disguise.

Many of her former comrades, although initially surprised at this revelation, were supportive of Hodgers, and protested her treatment at the state hospital. When Hodgers died on October 10, 1915, she was buried in her full uniform and given a tombstone inscribed with her male identity and military service. In the 1970s, a second tombstone, with the name Jennie Hodgers, was placed next to the original grave.

Remembering the Fall of Atlanta, September 02, 1864

On September 03, 1864 Major General William T. Sherman telegraphed Major General H.W. Halleck stating, So Atlanta is ours, and fairly won.[Taken from Library of Congress/Today in History]



susannaives.com

From Our Own Paymaster, Jim Duffy

At the end of each year most of the monies raised by the CWRT of Eastern PA are earmarked for preservation. This year was no exception. Here is how the money was allocated. \$1000.00 was sent to save 3 VA stations (Bristoe, Trevilian, and Reams Stations - \$76.26 to \$1 ratio - our \$1000 garnered \$76,260); We also sent \$1000.00 to Save Gettysburg (2 acres on the 1st Day's Battlefield - \$10 to \$1 ratio - our \$1000 generated \$10,000 of support. In addition, we also provided \$1000.00 for 3 properties at Appomattox Court House (\$1.80 to \$1 ratio - our \$1000.00 donation generated an \$1800.00) and finally Slaughter Pen Farm at Fredericksburg (\$1 to \$1 ratio) and our \$1000 provided a \$1000.00 contribution. Thus our \$4000.00 contribution, ultimately, was transformed into \$89,060.00. Thanks so much to all of you who helped to make this gift possible.

Potential Field Trips

Barry Arnold and Claire Kukielka

As many of you know, we like to take field trips when we can. Last year, in addition to our preservation efforts, we took a memorable excursion to Maryland. This year we would like to take one or two field trips over the course of the year. We think that the best option may be one or two day trips as a longer trip often poses more logistic concerns. We will be sending out a separate questionnaire shortly and we would very much appreciate your feed-back.

Remembering Shepherdstown: West VA Metro News August 13, 2017

Author Brad McElhinny with an Interview of Dennis Frye, Chief Historian for Harper's Ferry and Scheduled June speaker for CWRT of Eastern PA. The following is an excerpt from an entire article. The attached link may be used to locate the entire article.

<http://wvmetronews.com/2017/08/13/historians-are-winning-battle-to-preserve-civil-war-site-in-shepherdstown/>

The Battle of Shepherdstown, also known as the Battle of Boteler's Ford, was fought on Sept. 19-20, 1862, after the Battle of Antietam on Sept. 17, 1862

It was the third and last battle of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Maryland campaign.

"The Battle of Shepherdstown is part of what's known as the first invasion of the North. It was the first time the Confederate Army crossed into the United States, launching an invasion in September of 1862. The Civil War is now 18 months old,"[Dennis] Frye said.

"General Lee of the Confederate Army hopes that this invasion will have a political and diplomatic outcome that will be favorable to the confederacy and ultimately to confederate independence. He will fail militarily in that effort."

The Confederate Army was stopped in Sharpsburg, Md., just a couple miles from Shepherdstown, in the **Battle of Antietam**, the bloodiest single day in American military history. Overall, there were 22,717 casualties.

The Confederate Army then withdrew across the Potomac River, just down river from Shepherdstown. The Union army pursued.

"The union army attacks General Lee's rear guard in what becomes known as the battle of Shepherdstown that occurs two and three days after the Battle of Antietam," Frye said.

"Lee ultimately will retain the position in a very, very bloody fight there, over 600 casualties in a very short time, and that is the official end of the first invasion of the North."

REENLISTMENT REPORT

It is re-enlistment time for the 2017-2018 campaign. Again, our numbers have decreased over the past year and the Roundtable can use your help in acquiring some new recruits. If you know of anyone who has an interest in the Civil War, please pass his or her name and

address along to me. I will send them a few complimentary newsletters and an introductory letter to the Round Table. Better yet, bring them to a dinner meeting. The dues are \$25.00 for individuals, \$10.00 for full-time students. To avoid standing in line at the meeting, please fill out the form below and mail it with your check payable to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc. Thanks for your support. Jeff Gates (610) 966-5773 or jefgates@ptd.net

CWRT of Eastern PA ---REENLISTMENT FORM

Name_____

How long have you been a member? _____

Address _____

How did you hear of this organization?

What is your occupation/profession?

Phone_____

E-mail address_____

Reenactor?___ Unit _____

Please give name and unit of ancestor who fought in the Civil War

My major interest is:

Would you be willing to speak to groups on some aspect of the Civil War?

Would you be interested in participating in round table activities? _____(yes or no) Here are just a few of the ways you could get involved: ___public functions ___political action ___preservation ___living history ___ Other:_____(Please specify)

Dues (Please make checks payable to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc.)

___Individual (\$25.00) ___Full-Time Student (\$10.00)___Tax Deductible Donation

**Please fill out the Enlistment Form above for our next Campaign and mail FIRST CLASS to
CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc., P.O. Box 333 ALLENTOWN, PA 18105**

Dues are payable now!