

## **December 2017 – Winter Campaign 40: Meeting on December 05, 2017**

### **From the Brigade Commander: Ed Root**

Who knew? Isn't it amazing how new scholarship results in new information that adds to our knowledge of our Late Unpleasantness? Who knew that Charles Anderson, son of an aide to Lafayette, brother of Fort Sumter's Robert, friend of R.E. Lee gave a speech at Gettysburg on November 19, 1863? Now those of you who attended the November meeting know! Much gratitude is due to David Dixon for sharing the story of "The Lost Gettysburg Address."

We have been gathering at the Holiday Inn now for almost two years. Those of you who join us for dinner each month have experienced the good food, excellent service and resulting camaraderie that develops from chatting over a good meal. If you have not attended the dinner portion of our meetings please consider doing so. Bring a friend!

Our trip to Gettysburg on October 28th to visit the "Lost Ave" with Dean Shultz was a grand success. So much so that the attendees donated \$150 to the Land Conservancy of Adams County as a token of appreciation and our CWRT matched that with another \$150. Thanks so much to Wayne Schaeffer, Claire Kukielka and Barry Arnold for all their hard work arranging the trip!

You've noticed by now the treats brought every meeting by our Adjutant, Kay Bagenstose, as we celebrate our 40th Anniversary. Please note that all calories have been surgically removed for your snacking enjoyment! Let Kay know how much you appreciate her effort!

Your membership dues are the foundation for our financial success each year. There are few places in this world where \$25 can result in such a positive experience. So, if YOU haven't reenlisted yet, get going and bring a friend! Don't let Jeff Gates feel lonely at the entrance to the meeting room. He's a very sensitive fellow and will feel sad if you pass him by.

Remember to stop by and see Jim Duffy and Kay Bagenstose and check out our items for our Preservation raffle. We have more prizes than ever to entice your hard earned greenbacks from you. Remember, when it comes to historic Preservation there are no losers; we all have the satisfaction of helping to Save our Historic Sites and Collections!

Don't forget to frequently check our website. There is always something informative and interesting. <http://www.cwrteasternpa.org/> Paul Bartlett does a great job keeping things fresh.

Rev. John Berntsen has stepped up and will be helping out Program Chair Bob McHugh with our publicity effort. It is imperative that we reach out and find folks interested in American history and bring he or she into the fold. Any organization not growing is failing. There is no such thing as standing still. Onward and upward!! All members should help spread the word about our organization. The more members, the merrier! Thanks John!

We have a member who lives in the Catasauqua area who would love to attend a meeting, but needs a ride. Please contact me if you are able to help!

See you on December 5th when we welcome old friend Tim Smith and "Early Photography of the Gettysburg Battlefield."

Ed Root [sartilly@hotmail.com](mailto:sartilly@hotmail.com) 610-417-6673

## **Our December 05, 2017 Speaker, Tim Smith**

Timothy H. Smith is a native of Baltimore and a lifelong student of the American Civil War. He is employed as a Licensed Battlefield Guide at the Gettysburg National Military Park and as a research historian at the Adams County Historical Society. He is an instructor for the Gettysburg Elderhostel and teaches classes on the battle and local history at the Gettysburg Campus of the Harrisburg Area Community College. Tim has written numerous articles and authored or co-authored ten books on Gettysburg related topics, including John Burns: The Hero of Gettysburg (2000). He has lectured extensively at Civil War Round Tables and Seminars and has appeared on several television documentaries, including the Unknown Civil War and the popular PCN Gettysburg Battle Walk series.



### **About Tim Smith's Topic, Photography at Gettysburg**

In the aftermath of the great battle, sightseers, reporters and photographers descended on the town of Gettysburg. In 1863 alone, seven different photography firms or individual recorded scenes at Gettysburg. In 1867 two local firms recorded a vast number of stereo views, increasing the total number of views recorded in Gettysburg during the 1860s to over 300. During the decades that followed, thousands more photographs were recorded by local and national firms. Join Timothy H. Smith as we examine some of these views and discuss the photographic coverage of the battlefield.

**SAVE THE DATE... SAVE THE DATE... SAVE THE DATE...**

**Annual Gettysburg Conservation Day**

**Saturday, April 21st, 2018**

As you probably know our Round Table was one of the first organizations to volunteer for "Brush Cutting" at Gettysburg NMP. We've been doing this for well over 20 years. For most of that time we have been a "Fire Brigade" going wherever the need was the greatest. This year will be no exception.

On November 4th Chuck Cannon, Jeff Gates and I met with NPS Site Coordinator Alyce Evans at the Henry Spangler Farm located on the right side of Emmitsburg Road as you head south from town. (The entrance is a dirt road which will be marked.) The property is about 300 yards west of the road and consists of a house, smoke house and barn. Kemper's Brigade of Pickett's Division organized near here for the assault on July 3, 1863. As in previous years, we have something for all ages and abilities. There will be brush cutting around fence lines, some fences will need

rebuilding and for the artistic there is a picket fence that needs painting. We'll also need drivers if none of the above fits your job description capabilities.

We'll work from about 9AM until 12:30 or so. Bring your lunch and eat on the job or wait until everything is done and go into town. As a reward for your service one of the NPS staff will give a history of the property and fighting there when we complete our tasks.

There will be sign-up sheets starting at the December meeting. We have a wonderful tradition of service at Gettysburg NMP. Be part of our continuing work to maintain and preserve this national treasure.

### **A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words...**

It's been said that a picture is worth a thousand words, but truly, these two pictures (below) speak volumes. As Ed said at the November meeting, there is a potential conservation task for everyone and if you cannot do physical work, you can help with checking in, monitoring, picture taking or supervising. The more... the merrier. And just to be sure there was ample challenges for all, Ed, Jeff, and Chuck already took a road trip to determine just what needs to be done. Here are a few of those pictures. So there is brush cutting and fence rebuilding as presented in the top picture or for those of you more inclined to an artist's touch, there is plenty of picket fencing that could use a coat of fresh paint.







## Happy Birthday to Us; Happy Birthday to Us

Don't forget in honor of our fortieth birthdate, Kay Bagenstose is making the festivities even grander with special prizes and treats at every meeting. Below is a picture of our November winner. Congratulations Sherri Miller. Sherri's name was drawn and she received a special gift- a book. And remember, all you need to do is attend the meeting for your chance to win!



Sherri Miller was the lucky winner of the November drawing in honor of our 40th birthday .

## Thanks to David T. Dixon for his Presentation on The Lost Gettysburg Address



Bob McHugh presents a check to for the Civil War Trust for David's November presentation.

# Do You KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Taken from The Civil War Trivia Quiz Book by William Terdoslavich

Answers on Page 6

1. The Second Battle of Murfreesboro is also known as?  
A) Battle of Franklin      B) Battle of Collierville      C) Battle of Davis Bridge      D) Battle of Stone River
2. What Union General said, "War is Hell"?  
A) George Meade      B) Ulysses Grant      C) William T Sherman      D) William Rosencrans
3. What Confederate General was known to snatch Defeat from the Jaws of Victory?  
A) JEB Stuart      B) Robert E Lee      C) William Hardee      D) Braxton Bragg
4. What Civil War general was known as the "King of Spades"?  
A) JEB Stuart      B) Robert E Lee      C) William Hardee      D) Stonewall Jackson

## 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 December 05, 2017 meeting is Thursday, November 30, 2017.**

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

James Duffy – 610-253- 4549      [duffysocwk@aol.com](mailto:duffysocwk@aol.com)

Carol Detweiler 215-234- 4884      [cdetweiler01@comcast.net](mailto:cdetweiler01@comcast.net)

Ed Oechsle – 610-882-9228      [ehoechsle@ptd.net](mailto: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/>

## Operation Snowflake



For weather related postponements/cancellations, please visit the CWRT website -[www.cwrteasternpa.org](http://www.cwrteasternpa.org) - where any meeting change information will be posted. If you still have doubts, please call Ed Root at 610-417-6673.

## October Attendance Statistics by James Duffy

Our third meeting back and we had 42 attendees. That included 29 for dinner and 13 walk- ins. We were glad to see all of you and would love to have you back in December.

### ANSWERS FOR DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Quiz on page 5

- 1.) D                      2.) C                      3.) C                      4.) B

## November 2017 Book Raffle Winners



Winners from L to R: Tony Major, Sandra Todd, Frank Whelan, Claude Kohl, Sr., Claude Kohl, Jr., and Gary Schnell

## Christmas During the Civil War: Taken from [Civilwarwomenblog.com](http://Civilwarwomenblog.com)

During the Civil War, Christmas was celebrated in both the United States and the Confederate States of America although the day was not recognized until 1870, when President Ulysses S. Grant made Christmas an official Federal holiday in an attempt to unite north and south. The war continued to rage on Christmas Day and skirmishes occurred throughout the country.

## **Christmas Feasts**

A pre-war Southern Christmas dinner might consist of baked ham, turkey, oysters and winter vegetables from the root cellar: squash, cabbage, potatoes, sweet potatoes, carrots and apples. Preserves, pickles, relishes, breads, pies and puddings would also be added to the table. Over the years some foods had become synonymous with the Christmas season: mince pie, eggnog and plum pudding.

Confederate nurse Kate Cumming was up before daylight making eggnog for the patients in the hospital where she worked. She could not find enough eggs to serve everyone so the holiday treat was given to the wounded, the cooks and the nurses. One of the doctors provided turkeys, chickens, vegetables and pies - a wonderful meal, but Kate's enjoyment was dampened by the thought that the men on the battlefield had not fared so well.

In South Carolina, Emma Holmes described her holiday dinner as consisting of a ham - a gift from a friend - a turkey she had raised and bread pudding sweetened with sorghum, a delicious meal for the times. But she could not enjoy it for worrying about her family members in the army, who probably had little or nothing to eat. As the Civil War dragged on, deprivation replaced the well-set table, and familiar faces were missing from the dinner table.

In Winchester, Virginia, Cornelia McDonald had worked tirelessly preparing rusks (light, sweetened biscuits) and cakes for her children for the holiday, when Union soldiers suddenly filled her yard. When a soldier tried to run off with the Christmas turkey, she ran into the yard and retrieved the turkey, but soon discovered that her kitchen was full of soldiers who were eating all of her baked goods.

## **Oh Christmas Tree**

In the United States, the widespread customs of Christmas cards, carols and trees date back to the 1850s. A feature story in the magazine Godey's Ladys' Book initiated the most beloved symbol of the American family Christmas - the Christmas tree. The story was about Queen Victoria's and Prince Albert's Christmas tree, which was a custom Prince Albert brought to England from his native country, Germany.

The Christmas tree came into its own during the Civil War. Most trees were small and sat on a table and were usually decorated with sugared fruit, candles and mistletoe, all supposed to bring good luck to the household. Most decorations were homemade: strings of popcorn, ribbon, pine cones, colored paper and silver foil. Candles, greenery, holly and mistletoe were used to decorate mantels, windows and doors.

Although there was a war going many Christmas traditions began in the 19th century, one of which was Santa Claus. Cartoon artist Thomas Nast created many visuals which would influence both Union war efforts and Christmas traditions. He is credited with the first images of Santa Claus taken from his native German portrait of St. Nicholas. Nast drew many images of Santa Claus, but the most popular appeared in Harper's Weekly depicting Santa Claus in a red, white and blue suit with stars.

For children, Christmas was altered during the war. Presents were fewer, especially in the devastated South. By 1863, the Union blockade of the Southern coasts had made it nearly impossible for Santa Claus to visit homes in the South. Quite a few mothers explained to their children that there would be no presents because Santa Claus would not be able to run the blockade, or that the Yankees had shot him.

The most famous Christmas gift of the war was sent by telegram from General William Tecumseh Sherman to President Abraham Lincoln on December 22, 1864. "I beg to present you as a Christmas gift, the city of Savannah," wrote Sherman, "with 100 and 50 guns and plenty of ammunition, also about 25,000 bales of cotton."

But General Sherman's soldiers did not forget about the impoverished Southerners. On Christmas Day, they loaded several wagons full of food and supplies. Using tree branches as antlers, they turned their mules into 'reindeer' and delivered their gifts in the ravaged Georgia countryside. The destitute Southerners thanked the jolly Union Santa Clauses as the wagons were pulled away by their makeshift reindeer.

## **Reflecting on Our First Field Trip of the Year: 10-28-2017**

### **Wayne Schaeffer**

The first field trip of the year (2017-2018 Campaign) took us to Neill (Lost) Ave. in Gettysburg. The tour started in the parking lot on the Baltimore Pike with Dean Shultz, property owner and personal guide, using a large map to explain the battle in general and handing out personal maps of the property. As we left the parking lot and crossed Baltimore St., Dean pointed out some building and their significance like the saw mill, and the house used as a hospital with a small field adjacent to it, used temporarily as a grave yard. At the end of the field is a dried up well that soldiers used. That brought us to Dean's house which was a log cabin built about 1760, and owned by Peter Baker in 1863. The house has blood stains on the upstairs floor, a marker on the front of the house designating it a "Manor of Maske" and a bench on the porch that Dean said many soldiers sat on. We then moved to his barn which he explained the siding boards were not original because the boards were removed to be used as coffins.

Dean had been educating us for twenty minutes just to get to the point where I thought the tour would start. Sometimes we would walk about 50 to 100 feet and he would stop and explain about cattle grazing in a wooded area, or where soldiers had temporarily been buried, or demonstrate dowsing or how the wind mill's purpose was power to move water uphill to water crops.

Now we were approaching Neill Ave. which is considered "pristine" because its appearance is like it was in 1863, not paved like all other avenues in Gettysburg and the original wall that the two adversaries fought over. The main reason for this, it's on private property. He explained how Gen. Neill sent the 7th ME and the 43d NY to the stone wall at the crest of the hill to move the 2nd Va. away from the stone wall to protect the Baltimore Pike. Gen. Neill then went to get the 49th NY and 61st PA and put each on its flanks. Neill's other unit, the 77th NY was guarding Powers Hill. Dean talked about the 4 monuments to the union units of Neill's Brigade. The last monument on the hill was the 61st Pa and the last unit in line in the Army of the Potomac. Just past the 61st monument is the marker stating The Extreme Right Flank of the Army of the Potomac. There is no marker for the left flank of the Army of the Potomac. One thing missing is a monument to the 2nd Va. but a small confederate flag placed in the rock wall is its only memento.

From there we made our way through the woods and fields, all the while Dean was explaining who owned what and how each property changed hands up to today's ownership including private or GNMP. Dean told a story how someone decided to build a house on John Taney's site (which is where we were) but was persuaded to sell to the Civil War Trust. The John Taney house foundation is only remaining rock rubble but Dean has a great picture of the house with a woman at the wooden fence and I thought it a beautiful stone structure. He also had a story about a more recent sub-contractor who covered the hand dug well with a less than admirable solution.

Now the path, covered with loose rocks and leaves, takes us downhill toward Rock Creek. We stopped at another hand dug well not covered, so we could see what a hand dug well looked like. It was next to the foundation



of the Zephaniah Taney farm house foundation. The picture Dean has is another stone house but this one is in plain sight of Spangler Spring Meadow, if today's trees were removed. So the significance of this house (being of stone), is a sniper nest. Confederates used this building to snipe the 13th NJ and the 27th IN of Colgrove's Brigade, 1st Div., 12th Core across Rock Creek in McAllister's Woods and the lower meadow. Since crossing Rock Creek and flushing out the confederate snipers was not an option, the union brought in a Parrott gun. After a few shots the gun hit the house which drove out the snipers but returned later. This part of the tour was vitally important to me because it's a possibility this is where John Wesley Culp died. One story states he was buried in its basement, though later moved to the family cemetery in an unmarked grave.

From here we moved toward Rock Creek where Dean pointed out that the water level today is a small comparison to its former self. As we moved downstream we saw the place where McAllister's dam was washed away, rebuilt, washed away again and not rebuilt. The obvious reason for the water level being lower than 1863. Since I had never seen the McAllister's Mill site, I had to jump across a few rocks to cross Rock Creek to get a look. Even though a hole in the ground and a few huge boulders is not a lot to look at, I felt like I had accomplished something just being at the site. Dean also explained how the creek route changed so the island is not as large as it once was. It was here he showed us drill marks in the boulders where the footbridge crossing the creek was attached.

Downstream we passed an area where Dean pointed out where confederate relics were found behind possible fortifications. He took a moment to mention Wind Cave which is a group of very large boulders with an even larger boulder on top causing a cave that the wind blew through giving it the obvious name. A study dated it to about 8,000 years ago but a foreign group bought it, harvested what they could from the boulders and since they couldn't be stopped, it no longer exists. That's an example why "The Trust" needs our support.

After 5 plus hours, we were all exhausted but amazed at the tour we just observed. From here we made our way back to the barn, and thanked Dean profusely for his time, knowledge and talent and gave him the donation we mustered up. He decided to give it to the Land Conservancy of Adams County of which he is the founder. After we crossed Baltimore St. to the parking lot, I showed him the picture of Wesley Culp's rifle stock in the Harry Pfanz book "Culp's Hill & Cemetery Hill". When I told him it was not at GNMP, he was very curious as to what happened to it.



CWRT Members and Friends in Front of 48<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry (Neill Avenue)



Dean Discussing the Significance of the Seventh Maine

## **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  
One of our special anniversary prizes

### **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

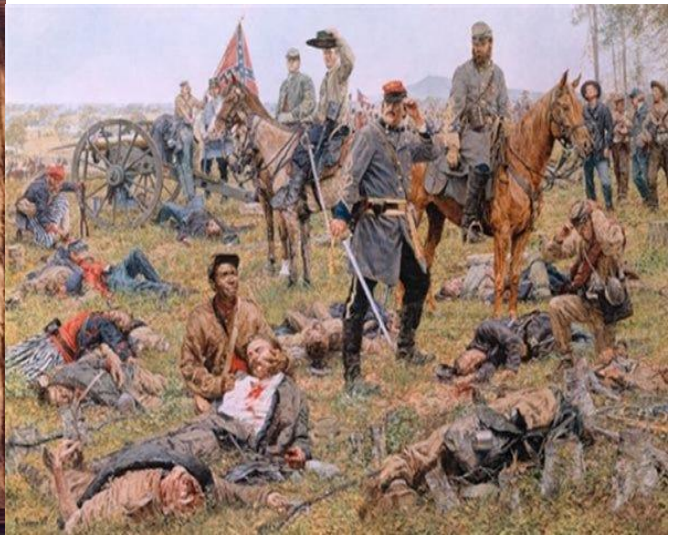
**Prize 6]** The South to Posterity by Douglas Southall Freeman

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





December prize



June Grand prize

## ROAD TRIPS....



Reminding all of our members to consider writing an article based on their own excursions. Thanks to Wayne Schaeffer for doing that in our December edition and to Reverend Paul Bartlett for his article and pictures in the November edition.

## December Tradition

**Remember, for all of you who have period garb/ reenactors' costumes, etc., we welcome your dressing up for our holiday dinner. It could only add to the festivities.**

## REENLISTMENT REPORT

### Jeff Gates

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](mailto:jefgates@ptd.net)

## CWRT of Eastern PA ---REENLISTMENT FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear of this organization?

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your occupation/profession?

\_\_\_\_\_

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!**