



October 2018 – Fall Campaign 41

Meeting October 02, 2018

From the Brigade Commander: Ed Root

Our Civil War was a great and horrific tragedy. Great in the sense of scale, something we can hardly understand today. Out of a population of only some 32 million up to 700,000 died and countless others soldiers and civilians alike had lives shattered, many beyond recovery. Horrific by any measure! We can only ponder on what we lost in those who could have contributed to the benefit of our country and within the larger community of humankind. Johnston Pettigrew was such a man. What a tragic loss! Much gratitude to George Franks for sharing the life of that scholar, soldier and man whose unfulfilled potential echoes down to us today. George has become a good friend of our Round Table and don't be shocked if he shows up at our annual Preservation/ Conservation day at Gettysburg on April 27th!

On Saturday, August 18 Kay Bagenstose, Kim Jacobs and I represented the CWRT of Eastern Pennsylvania, Inc. at the Civil War Round Table Congress at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. This gathering of representatives from all over the country explored ways to improve all our organizations. One of the main things we took away from that event is that the quest to bring in new members in the 20-40 year old range is a quest destined in the most part for failure. Folks in that age range are generally far too involved with kids and jobs and unfortunately just don't have the time or the energy for more activities. All the groups in attendance reported this fact so we are not alone in not being successful in that quest. This doesn't mean we should not try to gain new devotees to our organization in that or any age bracket. We have always been welcoming to women and men of all ages and backgrounds. The only criterion is an interest in our common history. Rev. John Berntsen does yeoman work getting out publicity to news outlets of all shapes and sizes, but we are capable of more and that is where you, our membership can help. Take our informational tri-folds that contain everything potential folks need to know to come to a meeting and help distribute them far and wide. Stores, libraries, doctors' offices; leave them anywhere that won't get you arrested! Almost all Round Tables have experienced a decline in membership over the past 20 years. Those who not only wish to prosper, but to survive must do everything possible to ensure that our study of American History does not fade away. Here ends the Sermon of the Daywith apologies to Rev. Berntsen and Rev. Landis.....

We have a number of items that have been donated over time that do not quite meet our book raffle guide lines so some will be available at very reasonable prices at the Sign In table.

Our October 20 Field Trip to Antietam with Dennis Frye as our guide is fast approaching. Have you signed up??

Our Round Table Board of Directors meets quarterly at the Southern Lehigh Public Library. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 23rd at 6:30 PM. All members are welcome! New membership and fresh leadership are critical to our future.

Dues are due! Sooner is better than later. Send your \$25.00 check (It's ok to send more if you're so inclined!) to our PO Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105. See Paymaster Jeff Gates.

Ed Root sartilly@hotmail.com 610-417-6673

About Our October Speaker.... David Ward



Biography: Born Pottsville, Pennsylvania 1957. Graduated from Franklin & Marshall College 1980 with BA in history. Graduated 1988 from Southern Connecticut State University with master's degree in history and library science. Professional librarian at New Academy, Livingston, New Jersey, 1984-1987. Assistant Library Director at The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, Connecticut 1987-2018.

Founded Connecticut Civil War Round Table in spring 1989. Served as program chairman from 1989-1995. Hosted New England Civil War Conference June 1990-1992. Owner and operator of the popular battlefield tour company Civil War Tours 2000-2015.

Published works:

- *The 96th Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Civil War*. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland Publishing, 2018.
- "Sedgwick's Foot Cavalry: The March of the Sixth Corps to Gettysburg," no. 22 (January 2000), *Gettysburg Magazine*.
- "Of Battlefields and Bitter Feuds: A History of the 96th Pennsylvania Volunteers," *Civil War Regiments* vol. 3, no. 3 (1993).
- Historical consultant: *Lincoln* directed by Steven Spielberg 2012.
- Book Reviews *Civil War News*, *Blue & Gray Magazine*.

Lectures:

- "Gettysburg: Crossroads of History and Hollywood." This lectures rolls two stories into one. Lincoln's historical visit to Gettysburg and my day at Gettysburg with Steven Spielberg and Daniel Day Lewis.
- "Billy Yank Goes to Gettysburg." Looks at the opening half of the Gettysburg campaign principally through the eyes of the rank and file of the Sixth Corps.
- "Shooting a Union Elephant in the Wilderness." Examines in detail the death of Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick and develops a list of possible Confederate suspects.
- "Johnny Reb and the Gettysburg Campaign: A View from the Bottom Up." Examines Confederate morale from the end of Chancellorsville to the end of the Gettysburg campaign through the eyes of the rank and file of the Army of Northern Virginia."

- “Soldiering in the Sixth Corps.” Brief biographical vignettes of Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin; Maj. Gen. William F. “Baldy” Smith; Maj. Gen. “Uncle” John Sedgwick and Maj. Gen. Horatio Wright. Testimony about each general from Sixth Corps soldiers is at the foundation of the lecture.
- “Jefferson Davis and His Quest to Find a Western Napoleon.” Examines the Western theater 1861-1862 and focuses on Jefferson Davis’ successes and failures from his early military appointments and setbacks at Mill Springs, Fort Donelson and the dramatic defeat at Shiloh.

About Our October Topic....

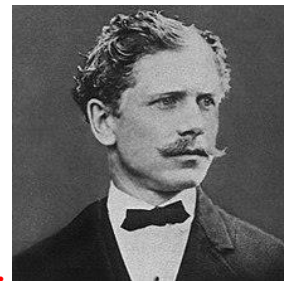
"Schuylkill County's Coal Heavers: The 96th Pennsylvania Volunteers"

Originally commanded by Col. Henry L. Cake, formerly of the National Light Infantry, the 96th Penna Vols served for three years in the 2nd Brigade, 1st Div of the 6th Corps in the Army of the Potomac. Principally War Democrats, the regiment fought with determination at Gaines' Mill, Crampton's Gap, Salem Church and at Spotsylvania on May 10 and again on May 12, 1864. The regiment lost 6 officers and 126 enlisted -- killed or mortally wounded -- in its three years of service.

The talk will highlight the regiment's military engagements, offer a few quotes regarding their views on the direction of the war and reactions to Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. Other topics too such as their observations regarding the chaos of combat and death and dying will also be afforded coverage. In addition, I'll use quotes from the soldiers to describe the generals they served under -- Slocum, Bartlett, Franklin, Brooks, Sedgwick and Upton.

September Attendance Statistics by James Duffy

Our first meeting of the 41st Campaign and we had 55 attendees. That included 32 for dinner and 23 walk-ins. We were glad to see all of you and would love to have you back in October.



The Devil's Dictionary.....

was written by former Civil War soldier and writer Ambrose Bierce. He served in the 7th Indiana Infantry Regiment and on the staff of General William Hazen. Bierce fought in the Western Theater at such places as Shiloh, Stones River, Chickamauga and was wounded at Kennesaw Mountain. His work was first published as The Cynic's Word Book in 1906 and then a more complete version in 1911 as The Devil's Dictionary. His satirical and humorous word definitions have made folks laugh and perhaps think ever since. Some of the definitions ring as true today as they did over 100 years ago. We have a tendency these days to believe that the foibles of our contemporaries are unique and new. A few examples follow that prove otherwise:

Alone, adj – In bad company

Prejudice, n – A vagrant opinion without visible means of support.

Rear, n – In American military matters, the exposed part of the army that is nearest to Congress.

What, dear reader does this mean to you? As we wish to encourage all of you to visit our website often **we will hide one of Bierce's gems within it. Check our website and be the first person to find the word and send an email to me with it will receive 2 of the 3 following prizes:** 1) My undying gratitude, 2) a \$500 gift certificate to Amazon, 3) three free tickets to the book raffle at the October meeting. It's my choice which 2 of the 3 will be forthcoming.....
So all you need to do is find the word and attend the meeting!

www.cwrteasternpa.org

Have fun!!

Ed Root: sartilly@hotmail.com

Fall 2018 & Spring 2019 PROGRAM REGISTRATION DETAILS

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 October 02, 2018 meeting is September 27, 2018.

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

Format of all meetings:

Sutler's Call 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Mess Call 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Program 7:30 p.m.

About Our Upcoming 2018-2019 Schedule of Speakers for Campaign 41

Programs: 2018 – 2019 Campaign

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
September 4, 2018	George Franks	"General J. Johnston Pettigrew"

October 2, 2018	David A. Ward	“The 96th Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Civil War”
November 6, 2018	Gordon Rhea	“On to Petersburg: Grant and Lee, June 4 – 15, 1864 “
December 4, 2018	Rich Rosenthal	“Civil War Women of Compassion, Courage, and Grit”
January 8, 2019	Chris Heisey	“Photographing Civil War Battlefields”
February 5, 2019	Cheryl Renée Gooch	“Hinsonville's Heroes: Black Civil War Soldiers of Chester County, PA”
March 5, 2019	Marc Blau	“Letters to Homefront Magazine: A Love Story Between a Community and its WWII Soldiers”
April 2, 2019	Ted Alexander	“Ethnics in the Confederacy”
May 7, 2019	Michael K. Shaffer	“In Memory of Self and Comrades: Thomas W. Colley in the 1st Virginia Cavalry”
June 4, 2019	Ken Serfass	“Grant and the Siege of Chattanooga” (as General Ulysses S. Grant)

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.

The September Presentation on General Pettigrew by George Franks



was extremely enlightening.

As a token of our appreciation George received a plaque of General Pettigrew and the homestead where he was mortally wounded. This was provided by Barry Arnold. He also received a donation to for his talk which will go to preservation of Falling Waters. Robert McHugh is pictured presenting the picture to George Franks.

September Special Recognition Awards for Kay Bagenstose and Barry Arnold

Both Barry and Kay spent considerable time, treasure, and talent to make our 40th anniversary year a truly special year. As such, the Board presented them with a recognition award for meritorious service. Here, Tony Major poses with our two devoted Board members, Kay and Barry.



Book Winners for September Drawing



September Book winners include Robert McHugh, John Maly, Dick Cruse, Jeff Gates, and William Frankenfield.

New Campaign Prizes

Civil War Roundtable Prizes for 2018 – 2019 Campaign Season

<u>Prize</u>	<u>Title</u>
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- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Franklin Mint Civil War Chess set |
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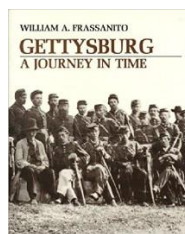
2 Framed Sherman Autograph

3 Longstreet Pocket Watch

4 Print – “Confederate Infantry Army of Northern Virginia” – Rick Reeve (signed and numbered)



5 Grant’s Memoirs (Vol 1, 1885, Vol 2 1886)



6 Gettysburg – A Journey in Time by Bill Frassanito (Signed)

June 2019 Preservation Raffle

Please note Change in Procedure of Drawing

(Since we have such an eclectic array of prizes it is suggested that the first winner will have the pick of the six prizes and continuing until all prizes are given. If someone will not be available to attend the June meeting he or she can assign a proxy. If not, a prize will be assigned)

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

Do You **KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?**

A brain-stretching quiz about the historic struggle between the blue and gray

Taken from The Civil War Trivia Book by William Terdoslavich

See answers on page 9.

1. Most common profession of Confederate soldier?
a) Mason b) Farmer c) Baker d) Soldier

2. What was a bounty jumper?
a) Person who signed up for enlistment bounty and ran off the first chance they got.
b) Person who went after soldiers who went AWOL.
c) Person who followed troops and offered sign up bonuses.
d) None of the above

3. What was referred to as a Housewife?
a. Sewing kit provided by a loved one or the Soldier's Aid Society
b. Company dog
c. Company cook
d. None of the above

4. What was a sutler?
a. A cook
b. A Quartermaster
c. A civilian who made a living selling provisions to an army on the move
d. None of the above

Director, Membership Request– Jeff Gates, 610-966-5773...Please read.....

I'm hoping you all had a wonderful summer and were able to visit your favorite Civil War Sites! Our membership remained just shy of 100 this past campaign. I'm looking for your assistance in our endeavor to find new members. Bring a friend, co-worker, family member to a meeting as we try to break back into the triple digits of membership.

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to returning member, Rev. Christopher Hershman! Please welcome him when you bump into him at the dinner meetings.

It's that time of year again to renew your membership to the Civil War Roundtable. The Dues for the 2018-2019 Campaign have not changed and remain at \$25.00 (Full Time Student \$10.00). If you wish to avoid the line at the October Dinner Meeting, please mail in your membership form and Check to the Roundtable address.

(See last page for form)

ANSWERS FOR DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Quiz on page 8-9

1. B 2. A 3. A 4. C.

Thank you for your Contribution to Preservation

Please note the correspondence below (pages 10-11) that notes the dedication and generosity of our Roundtable in preserving historic sites and artifacts. Ed Root has asked that you be informed of our most recent receipt of appreciation.



WELCOME TO THE SHENANDOAH GUARD



Dear Mr. Root,

On behalf of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, I'd like to thank you and the Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pennsylvania for your commitment to battlefield preservation. Building relationships is one of my passions in life, and I hope I'll have the opportunity to get to know more about you and the Round Table during the number of events we have for Shenandoah Guard members.

The **Gathering of the Guard** is an annual event that features a Guard-only battlefield tour and includes an exclusive dinner with a historian. In years past, our Guard members have dined with historians like Dr. James "Bud" Robertson and Scott Patchan. Unfortunately, this year's Gathering has passed, but I'll keep you updated regarding the date and itinerary of next year's event.

Not only have we created exclusive events to thank those who have given the most of their resources, we thought about other ways we could honor our elite givers throughout the year. Shenandoah Guard members enjoy special recognition for their generosity at our **National Civil War Conference**. I hope you can join us on April 10 - 13, 2019, in Front Royal, Virginia, for a wonderful affair of bus tours, talks, and spending time with fellow preservationists.

In addition to formally planned events, Guard members are often invited as special guests to private events – intimate receptions for preservation successes, special ceremonies, etc. – throughout the year. We understand timing and travel can be an issue, but we'd love to have you join us whenever you can.

Back by popular demand and better than ever, **Fridays at the Front** tours are offered once a month during the summer and are led by CEO Keven Walker. The last tour for 2018 will be held at Fisher's Hill on September 21; additional information can be found on our website, www.ShenandoahAtWar.org, or by giving me a call.

I sincerely hope to see you during our events in the next year, and I will do everything I can to make arrangements as convenient for you as possible. Most importantly, I will serve as your personal representative in the Shenandoah Guard membership program. If you have any questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Thank you again and again for your personal concern in saving our battlefields. You have set the bar high for partnership; we couldn't do what is needed without you. I look forward to serving you in return.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Kauling
Member Relations Associate
540-740-4545
kkauling@svbf.net



**BOARD OF
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Keven M. Walker
Chief Executive Officer

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation
PO Box 897
New Market, VA 22844

CWRT of Eastern PA
PO Box 333
Allentown, PA 18105

Dear Fellow Preservationists,

We can't thank you enough for your kind gift of \$1,000.00 received on 8/22/2018 in support of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and Civil War battlefield preservation. Your membership has preserved and protected 4 historic homes, including the Crim House in New Market; established a research library and world-class collection of books and artifacts; and helped raise millions of dollars for our beloved battlefields. Like Stonewall Jackson adding his shoulder to the cannon stuck in the mud, the help of every person makes the difference!

Since our organization began, our mission has been to preserve, interpret, and care for the hallowed ground of the Valley's Civil War battlefields, and to share its Civil War history with the nation. Over the years we have saved almost 5,000 acres of endangered land - more land in the Shenandoah Valley than all other battlefield preservation organizations. To continue our work, we are targeting preservation projects on five different battlefields, in addition to developing interpretation and restoration programs. This is only possible because of contributions from thoughtful people like you.

Please keep this written acknowledgment of your donation for your personal records. If you would like additional information, please don't hesitate to call me at 540-740-4545.

Again, we thank you for supporting *your* National Historic District, and the land where many gave their all.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Kauling
Member Relations Associate
540-740-4545
ShenandoahAtWar.org

Donation Summary

Date: 8/22/2018

Received: \$1,000.00

Campaign: Membership

Non-Deductible Amount: \$0.00

This is an official receipt usable for Income Tax purposes. The receipt was issued in New Market, Virginia on 8/27/2018. United States Internal Revenue Service: www.irs.gov

No goods or services were provided by Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation in return for your contribution other than token goods and services considered to be inconsequential or insubstantial under IRS Section 170 and Revenue Procedure 90-12.

REENLISTMENT REPORT

It is re-enlistment time for the 2018-2019 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

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? _____

___public functions ___political action ___preservation ___living history

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!