

**January 2019 – Winter/Spring Campaign 41 : Meeting January 08, 2019**

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

In the midst of battles and of discussions of strategy and tactics it is sometimes easy to overlook the home front. Thanks to Rich Rosenthal we were enlightened about some of the ladies who took on large and many times grave responsibilities to hold everything together.

We welcomed new members Shelby Edwards and James Whitney at the December meeting. They joined us for the Antietam field trip with Dennis Frye in October and I'm pleased that they are now members. Please check the Brigade News section of our website and see the article written by Frank Whelan about their home and the Antietam connection with the man who once lived there!

At the December meeting I mentioned that we had a complete 28 volume set of the Time Life Civil War Encyclopedia that we wished to donate to a school, library or other facility where they would be appreciated and utilized. Thanks to Neil and Kathy Coddington, we found a home for the set at the Northampton County Historical & Genealogical Society's Sigal Museum. Neil and Kathy are both long time volunteers there so it's a wonderful fit. Check out the museum website at [www.sigalmuseum.org](http://www.sigalmuseum.org)

You should all be aware that the site of our Gettysburg conservation work on April 27th will be at the John Slyder Farm. No excuses for missing this important work day. There is something for everyone, painting, fencing, brush cutting or just standing around critiquing the work done by others. We'll have fun, learn about that portion of the battlefield and help preserve and conserve our nation's historic land! Details to follow as we get closer to April.

Thanks to everyone who responded to our monthly contest on a word definition from Ambrose Bierce's *Devil's Dictionary*. Remember, the first person who finds the word and definition in our website and emails me receives 3 free book raffle tickets at our meeting. Actually, since we've been running this contest before the September gathering exactly no one has responded with the correct answer. As a matter of fact, only ONE person responded period and that person who shall remain nameless failed! It's not hard folks, humor me, and check out our website for the Ambrose Bierce mystery word definition of the month. Send an email to me with the word AND attend the January meeting. I'm counting on you!!!

Dues are overdue! 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 at the December meeting. A hearty thank you to those who responded to our Annual Appeal. Your generosity will go a long way in bringing wonderful programs to the Lehigh Valley while helping to maintain our meeting and dinner costs as low as possible.

Our next CWRT Board Director's meeting will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Southern Lehigh Public Library, 3200 Preston Lane, Center Valley, PA at 6:30 PM. All members in good standing are welcome!

Please join us on the SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH on January 8th when Chris Heisey will present, "Photographing Our Civil War Battlefields" See you on the 8<sup>th</sup>!

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

## About Our January Speaker.... Chris Heisey



Chris Heisey's images have appeared in more than 200 publications and media productions worldwide. He has co-authored two previous books, *Gettysburg: This Hallowed Ground* with Kent Gramm and *In the Footsteps of Grant and Lee: Wilderness thorough Cold Harbor*, with Gordon Rhea. The forthcoming *Gettysburg: The Living and the Dead*, co-authored with Kent Gramm, will be released by Southern Illinois University Press in May 2019. Over the past 30 years, he has visited some 380 American battlefields and supports several historic preservation groups whose mission is to save threatened hallowed grounds. He works for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where he is a photojournalist and writer.

## About Our Speaker's Topic:

Join photographer, Chris Heisey, on January 8, 2019, when he presents a program: Photographing Our Civil War Battlefields to the Civil War Roundtable of Eastern PA. He will share 70 of his evocative contemporary battlefield images of hallowed grounds that range from Vicksburg, Mississippi, to Gettysburg. He will provide battle historical anecdotes as well as share his personal experiences while shooting his imagery over the past three decades.

## Calendar Purchase 2019

Please note Chris will be selling calendars with pictures of Civil War sites and battlefields for 2019. You might wish to hold off on purchasing a 2019 calendar until you come January 08, 2019. We think this might be something you just cannot turn down.

## SAVE THE DATE... SECOND FIELD TRIP...JAN. 26, 2019

Barry Arnold and Claire Kukielka

Our second field trip is scheduled for January 26, 2019. We are going to the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. We will arrive at 10:00 a.m. and have a private tour of places that folks are not normally admitted entrance to. After that, we can look at some of the normal exhibits. We will take a short break for lunch and then attend a lecture by Jeffrey D. Wert who will be speaking on the Civil War and will address his new book, on the business of war. Cost of admission is \$25.00 and we must have a minimum of 12 folks to attend. Please e mail Barry Arnold (bjasparks@rcn.com) or Claire Kukielka (clkuk@ptd.net) to confirm your plans to attend. We would love to have you join us. Please note we would like to collect the money in advance if at all possible.

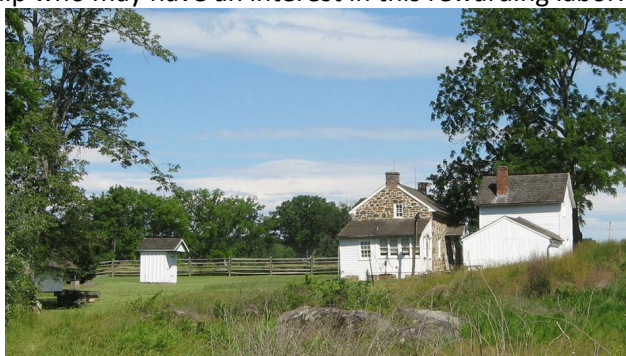
## December Attendance Statistics by James Duffy

Our fourth meeting of the 41<sup>st</sup> Campaign and we had 43 attendees. That included 32 for dinner and 11 walk-ins. We were glad to see all of you and would love to have you back in January. **Please note due to the first Tuesday falling on New Year's Day, we will be meeting on the second Tuesday of the month- just for January.**

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

**Gettysburg NMP Conservation Day – Saturday, April 27, 2019**

Our annual work day will entail work at the John Snyder Farm on the southern end of the battlefield. As always there will be something for everyone including fence painting & fence rebuilding. This will be our 5th year since we've expanded our role by including partners from Saucon Valley High School, Boy Scout Troop 89 from New Tripoli & the Whitehall Historical Society. Most groups who volunteer at Gettysburg have limited numbers and have limited goals. Because our numbers have reached 40 to 50 some folks we have been able to help the National Park Service staff accomplish projects other group cannot attempt. Caitlin Brown, Park Coordinator will once interpret action that occurred on the site after our task is completed. All are welcome. Please advise me if you know of any other folks outside of our CWRT membership who may have an interest in this rewarding labor.



The John Snyder farm was on the western side of Big Round Top, just down Plum Run from the Devil's Den. John had moved from Maryland and bought the 75 acre farm in 1849. By the 1860's it included a two story stone house, barn, blacksmith and carpenter shops, an orchard of peach and pear trees, thirty acres of timber and eighteen acres of meadow.

On July 2nd [Confederate General John B. Hood's Division](#) swept across Snyder's farm in its advance toward the Devil's Den and Little Round Top. The crops and orchards were trampled and destroyed and the farm buildings became a Confederate field hospital, with the family's possessions looted or spoiled. Two months after the battle, in September, John sold the farm and moved to Ohio. The Snyder family had connections with other Gettysburg families. John's wife Catherine was the sister of [Lydia Leister, whose house](#) became General Meade's headquarters during the battle. And in October of 1863 John's son William married Josephine Miller, the granddaughter of [Peter and Susan Rogers, whose farm lay on Emmitsburg Road](#).

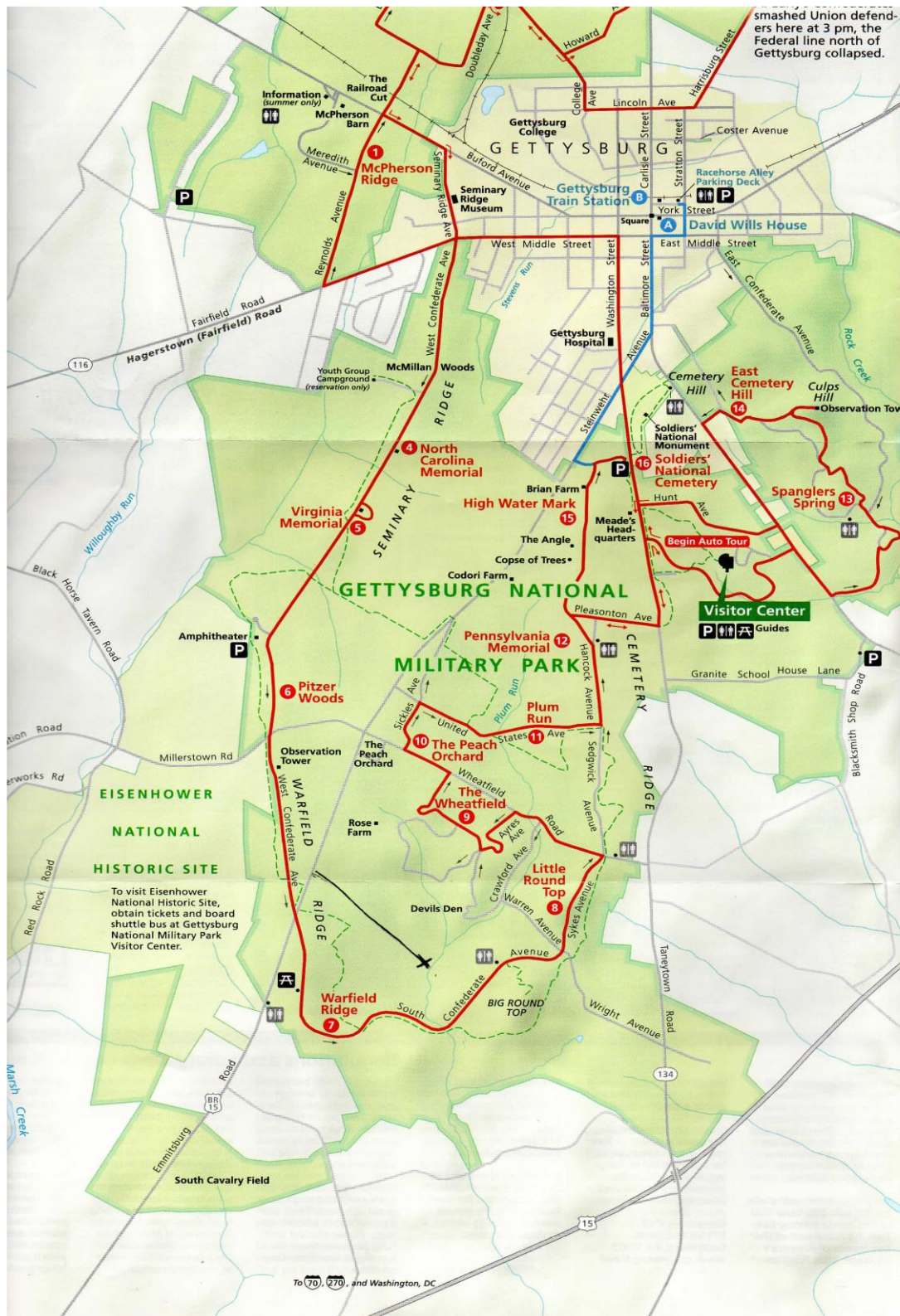
The farm passed to the Snyder family, who owned it around the turn of the century. It is now owned by the National Park Service. The [monument to Companies E & H, Second United States Sharpshooters \(Vermont Sharpshooters\)](#) is beside the driveway in front of the farmhouse.

**Pictures for our Upcoming Conservation Excursion in April 2019**



As you can see, there is plenty of work to be done...you can choose painting, rebuilding fencing, or some other task. If you saw the movie, Gettysburg, you will recall that the meeting between Robert E. Lee and J.E.B. Stuart was filmed here.





X marks the Slyder Farm on the map below. The entrance is off of the Emmitsburg Road (also known as Business Route 15 & Steinwehr Avenue). Logistical details to as we get closer to April 27.

## Partners Support Monument Preservation at Gettysburg National Military Park

The Gettysburg Foundation and the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (GBPA) have provided donations to match federal funds to preserve monuments at Gettysburg National Military Park. Thanks to partner support and federal funding from the Helium Act, a total of \$188,129 is available to do repairs and preservation maintenance for more than 350 civil war monuments on the Gettysburg battlefield.

The Gettysburg Foundation provided \$50,765 and the GBPA provided \$43,300 in a dollar-for-dollar match for \$94,065 in federal funding. National Park Service preservation specialists will use the funds to continue to work on more than 350 of Gettysburg's 1300 monuments, steam cleaning stone features and pedestals, re-pointing and preserving masonry, power-washing and waxing all bronze elements, and repairing and replacing missing or broken bronze features, as necessary.

The federal funding comes from the Helium Stewardship Act of 2013, which provides \$20 million in fiscal 2018 from proceeds from the sale of federal helium, to be used for deferred maintenance projects requiring a minimum 50% match from a non-federal funding source.

"Public private partnerships help stretch federal dollars to take care of national parks," said Ed Wenschhof Jr., acting superintendent at Gettysburg National Military Park. "We're very pleased to have the Gettysburg Foundation and the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association help us fund the care of these important monuments."

Beginning in 1863 veterans and survivors of the battle of Gettysburg preserved the battle grounds and created the commemorative features and monuments that still define the park [today](#). The 1895 law establishing Gettysburg National Military Park authorized the federal government to preserve the "important topographic features of the battlefield" and to preserve and mark the battle positions.

Gettysburg National Military Park preserves, protects and interprets for this and future generations the resources associated with the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, during the American Civil War, the Soldiers' National Cemetery, and their commemorations.

About the Gettysburg Foundation: The Gettysburg Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit philanthropic, educational organization operating in partnership with the National Park Service to preserve Gettysburg National Military Park and the Eisenhower National Historic Site, and to educate the public about their significance. The Foundation operates the Museum and Visitor Center at Gettysburg National Military Park.

About the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association: Founded in 1959, the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association, a 501(c)(3) corporation, is the oldest Civil War battlefield preservation organization in the nation. Among its many preservation efforts, in 1999, the organization acquired, restored and now operates the historic Daniel Lady Farm on Hanover Street in Gettysburg.

## Operation Snowflake



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

## Fall 2018 & Winter/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 this is a meeting where the second Tuesday of the month is our meeting date and the deadline for making dinner reservations for the January 08, 2019 meeting is January 03, 2019. Please also note for this month only Ed Root should be contacted rather than Jim Duffy.**

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

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

### 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.      |

**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.



## Kudos to our December Speaker, Rick Rosenthal



Bob McHugh thanks Rick for his program. A great topic and quite timely. Rick will put our donation to good use with the CWRT of Northern New Jersey. This money is earmarked for the scholarship fund.

## Book Winners for December Drawing



December Book winners include Bob McHugh, Diane French, Maria Maly, Gary Schnell, and James Whitney.

## 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. 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)

## New Campaign Prizes

### Civil War Roundtable Prizes for 2018 – 2019 Campaign Season

| <u>Prize</u> | <u>Title</u> |
|--------------|--------------|
|--------------|--------------|

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Franklin Mint Civil War Chess set |
|---|-----------------------------------|



- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 2 | Framed Sherman Autograph |
|---|--------------------------|



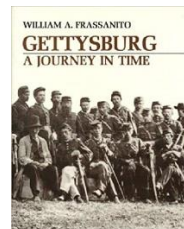
- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 3 | Longstreet Pocket Watch (No pix) |
|---|----------------------------------|

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|---|---|
| 4 | Print – “Confederate Infantry Army of Northern Virginia” – Rick Reeve (signed and numbered) |
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|---|--|
| 5 | Grant’s Memoirs (Vol 1, 1885, Vol 2 1886) (No pix) |
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- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 6 | Gettysburg – A Journey in Time by Bill Frassanito (Signed) |
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## 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!!!**

## **REMEMBERING JANUARY 1863**

### **Battle of Arkansas Post, 10-11 January 1863**

Rickard, J (14 October 2006), *Battle of Arkansas Post, 10-11 January 1863*,  
[http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/battles\\_arkansas\\_post.html](http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/battles_arkansas_post.html)

A brief interlude between Union attempts to capture Vicksburg, the most significant Confederate stronghold left on the Mississippi River by the end of 1862 (American Civil War).

The battle saw General John A. McClernand briefly rise to prominence. McClernand was a 'political' general (i.e. not a West Point graduate). A 'War' Democrat from Illinois, McClernand had convinced Lincoln that he could raise a new army capable of seizing Vicksburg if he was given command of the expedition. General Halleck was able to get McClernand's authority reduced to that of a normal corps commander, although he would still outrank Sherman through simple seniority. McClernand proved able to keep the first part of his promise, raising a series of new regiments in the north west, but his ability to command an army was as yet unproven.

Fort Hindman - At the end of 1862 Grant had launched his first attack on Vicksburg. While Grant advanced overland, Sherman was to launch a second attack from the Mississippi. McClernand had not yet arrived with the army, and so was unable to take command himself. Unfortunately, when Grant was forced to abandon his campaign, he was unable to get the news to Sherman in time to stop Sherman's attack. This attack was repulsed with heavy losses (Battle of Chickasaw Bluffs, 29 December 1862). Sherman retreated to Milliken's Bend, which was where McClernand joined him.

Although Union forces controlled most of the Mississippi, the Confederates still had some forces close enough to threaten the river. One such force was based at Arkansas Post, only fifty miles up the Arkansas River, which joined the Mississippi half way between Memphis and Vicksburg. Although only 5,000 strong, that force was large enough to pose a potential threat to Union communications during any attack on Vicksburg. Sherman was convinced that it was worth sending an expedition against this position, and was eventually able to persuade McClernand to approve the attack.

Once he was one over to the idea, McClernand moved his entire army of 32,000 men up the Arkansas River to attack the post. On 9 January the troops were disembarked downriver of the fort. On the following day Admiral Porter's ironclads began to bombard the Confederate fort. Finally, on 11 January the army and navy launched a combined attack on the fort. After four hours of resistance the outnumbered Confederate garrison surrendered. Union losses were surprisingly heavy considering their great advantage in numbers, at 134 killed, 898 wounded and 29 missing. Confederate casualties were lower, at 60 dead and 75 wounded, but they also lost 4,791 men captured. The fall of Arkansas Post also removed the Confederate's best chance of interfering with an Union attack on Vicksburg. Ironically, the aftermath of the battle saw the removal of McClernand, despite his initial lack of enthusiasm for the expedition. Before coming into full possession of the facts, Grant had written to General Halleck to complain about what he saw as McClernand's wasteful diversion. Armed with Grant's letter, Halleck was able to persuade Lincoln to allow him to issue an order giving Grant permission to remove McClernand from command of the Vicksburg expedition, and either appoint a new commander or take over himself. Meanwhile, Grant was receiving complaints about McClernand from both Sherman and Rear-Admiral David Porter. According to his autobiography,

when Grant reached McClelland's army it was clear that he had lost the confidence of both the army and navy. This gave Grant something of a problem. He would have preferred to give Sherman command of the army, but McClelland was the senior general. Grant's solution was to take command of the Vicksburg himself, with McClelland and Sherman as Corps commanders.

## 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 page 11

1. A prominent photographer of New York who ran a photo studio and chronicled the Civil War through pictures although many of the pictures credited to him were also done by his staff rather than himself.  
a) Timothy O'Sullivan      b) Matthew Brady      c) George Barnard      d) Alexander Gardner
2. A Union general credited with creating an American obsession. Name the general and the obsession.  
a) Abner Doubleday, football  
b) Henry Halleck, baseball  
c) Abner Doubleday, baseball  
d) Phillip Sheridan, golf
3. Name the president who hired a substitute rather than fight in the American Civil War himself. He, instead, stayed home and supported his mother and sisters. This president is the only president to serve nonconsecutive terms as president.  
a. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
b. Theodore Roosevelt  
c. James Garfield  
d. Grover Cleveland
4. What was Lee's horse's name?  
a. Traveler  
b. Trigger  
c. Flicka  
d. Old Baldy
5. Who said "War is Hell"?  
a. Robert E. Lee      c. Ulysses Grant  
b. William T. Sherman      d. Braxton Bragg

## ANSWERS FOR DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Quiz page 10

1. B

2. C

3. D

4. A

5. B



<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/civil-war/1864/january/new-years-day.htm>

You are viewing an original 1864 illustration of New Year's Day by Thomas Nast. The picture compares and contrasts the state of affairs in the North and the South during the Civil War year of 1864. The left of the pictures presents scenes of happiness and joy in the North. Union Soldiers are pictures on furlough celebrating the New Year with their family. A small inset image shows former slaves celebrating their recent emancipation. Children are seen happy and playing. A picture of a union soldier shows him to be well fed, clothed and equipped.

In contrast, the images on the right show the sad state of affairs in the South at this time. A woman and several children are shown weeping and grieving over a fresh grave . . . presumably that of the woman's husband, and the father of the children. A rebel soldier is seen in a tattered uniform, unable to protect himself from the bitter cold.

The upper inset image implies a spiritual component to the Civil War, with scenes of heavenly and demonic beings pitted against one another.

With the 1864 presidential campaign about to get underway, and with the Democratic Party arguing strongly for Compromise with the South, Thomas Nast used this illustration to remind people of what had been accomplished, and how victory was close at hand, if the country would stay the course.

## 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 [jeffgates@ptd.net](mailto:jeffgates@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!**