

February 2019 – Winter/Spring Campaign 41 : Meeting February 05, 2019

From the Brigade Commander: Ed Root

The phrase “a picture is worth a thousand words” never rang truer than it did at our January meeting. Much thanks to Chris Heisey for his informative and entertaining presentation. Our country’s battlefields came alive through his wonderful photographs. We were pleased to send a \$50.00 donation to the American Battlefield Trust in his name. Battlefield trekking lessons learned from Chris; stay off the railroad tracks at Thoroughfare Gap and beware of sinkholes at Ball’s Bluff. If you don’t know what that means then shame on you for missing a great meeting.

At the January 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. I am happy to report that thanks to Tony Major, Legend of Allentown Senior Living has taken the set for placement in its library. Thanks also to Marie Maly and Bob McHugh for investigating possible homes for the set.

I know we have a few slackers out there who have not as yet re-enlisted for this Campaign. Please see Jeff Gates at the February meeting or suffer the consequences! Seriously, we need and appreciate your continuing support!

We have partnered with the Southern Lehigh Public Library in the past supporting their Civil War programs. On Monday, April 15 at 7PM Alisa Dupuy will present a first-person impression of Clara Barton. More information will be forthcoming, but please save the date as this will be an excellent program. www.solehipl.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! A sign-up sheet will be at the February meeting.

Preservation efforts come by all sort of ways and means. The Civil War Memorial in downtown Allentown at 7th and Hamilton has been bathed in garish multi colored lights. While appropriate to draw attention to this memorial by lights, purple and pink seem rather more festive than respectful. Check out our website for Frank Whelan’s letter to city fathers asking for some respect for those who served so long ago. Well done Frank! www.cwrt.easternpa.org

Claire and Barry worked long and hard to set up the field trip to Harrisburg’s wonderful Civil War Museum. Those who went on this trip on January 26th were able to view some of the treasures behind the scenes thanks to Wayne Motts. Please let Claire and Barry know how much you appreciate their hard work and dedication on behalf of our organization.

Please join us on February 5th when Dr. Cheryl Renee Gooch will present, “Hinsonville’s Heroes” Last August Kay, Kim and I attended the Civil War Round Table Congress in Harrisburg where we met Dr. Gooch. You are in for a real treat! You won’t want to miss this program! [See you on the 5th!](#)

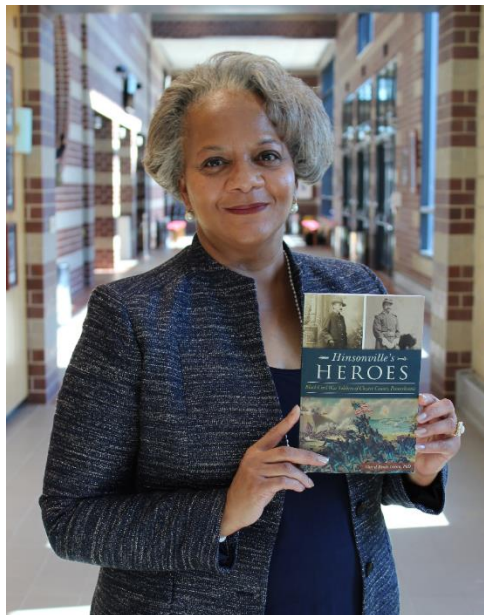
Ed Root sartilly@hotmail.com 610-417-6673

About Our February Speaker....

Dr. Cheryl Renée Gooch is an academic leader, published scholar and active historical researcher. She served as historian and primary writer for the Delaware History Museum's permanent exhibition, "Journey to Freedom" which chronicles the Black Delawarean experience from 1629 to the present.

An active member of the Toni Morrison Society *Bench by the Road Project*, Dr. Gooch led the effort to place the memorial bench at Hosanna Church which honors Hinsonville's Civil War veterans, the church's role in founding Lincoln University, and its members participation in Liberian colonization and the abolition of slavery.

A Life member of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), she serves on the Executive Council, and is a member of the organization's National Heritage Sites Committee which works with the National Park Service to expand inclusive interpretations of our country's parks and sites.



About Our Speaker's Topic:

Dr. Cheryl Renée Gooch, author of [*Hinsonville's Heroes: Black Civil War Soldiers of Chester County, Pennsylvania*](#) (The History Press, February 2018) will discuss her newest book which traces and interprets the lives of 18 men from this free black community who served in the war to end slavery, and their families' efforts to ensure that they are remembered for their role in re-unifying this country.

Named for Emory Hinson, a black man who purchased acres straddling Lower and Upper Oxford townships in Chester County, PA, the former 19th century village of Hinsonville attracted both free and determined to be free people who championed religious freedom, higher education, land ownership and equal rights. Residents organized a black Protestant church, supported the founding of Ashmun Institute (later Lincoln University),

vigilantly opposed slavery and, in some cases, emigrated to Liberia as a part of the colonization movement. The community's tradition of self-determination compelled 18 of its men to enlist to advance the freedom cause, 11 of whom trained at the former Camp William near Philadelphia.

Since its release, *Hinsonville's Heroes* has maintained active interest among Civil War Round Table, general and academic audiences, and was featured on Pennsylvania Cable Network-TV's *PA Books*.

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.

January Attendance Statistics by Ed Root

Our fifth meeting of the 41st Campaign and we had 55 attendees. That included 39 for dinner and 16 walk-ins. We were glad to see all of you and would love to have you back in February.

SAVE THE DATE..... SAVE THE DATE..... SAVE THE DATE..... CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY

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

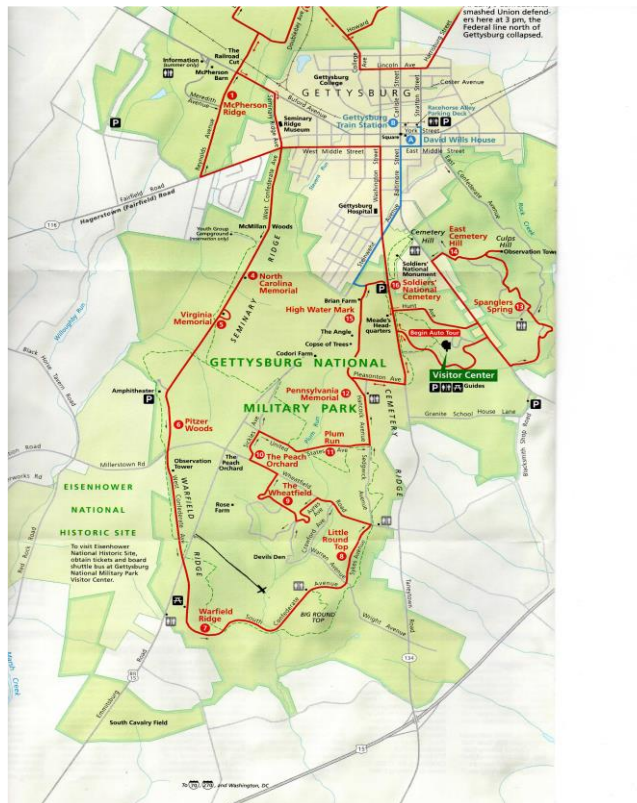
the farm and moved to Ohio. The Snyder family had connections with other Gettysburg families. John's wife Catherine was the sister of [Lydia Leister, whose house](#) became General Meade's headquarters during the battle. And in October of 1863 John's son William married Josephine Miller, the granddaughter 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 Snyder 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.

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

I'm hoping you all had a wonderful holiday! 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 February Dinner Meeting, please mail in your membership form and Check to the Roundtable address. (See last page for form)

VALENTINES DAY DURING THE CIVIL WAR

<http://www.newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/six-quick-facts-valentine-history/>



Perhaps the most notorious Valentine ever was sent by John Wilkes Booth to Lucy Lambert Hale, the daughter of John Parker Hale, U.S. senator from New Hampshire. Lincoln's assassin sent the Valentine to Lucy anonymously in 1862. "To see you has indeed afforded me a melancholy pleasure," he wrote. They flirted, they courted and then they got engaged. According to some accounts, Lucy dined with Booth two hours before he killed President Lincoln. A picture of Lucy Lambert Hale was found on his body. Lucy left the country after the assassination and married a New Hampshire lawyer nine years later.

For More information on Valentines and/or the Civil War:

<https://emergingcivilwar.com/2012/02/14/i-live-or-die-thy-valentine-or-love-in-the-time-of-war/>

Operation Snowflake



For weather related postponements/cancellations, please visit the CWRT website -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.

Fall 2018 & Winter/Spring 2019 PROGRAM REGISTRATION

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. For the February 05, 2019 meeting, the

deadline for making dinner reservations is January 31, 2019. Please also note for this month, Ed Root should be contacted rather than Jim Duffy. We are hoping that Jim will be back in the very near future.

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

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

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, Chris Heisey

Bob McHugh thanks Chris for his program. It was nice to hear all the anecdotes associated with Chris' amazing pictures. Chris has requested we provide a check to the Civil War Trust to be used for preservation.



Book Winners for January Drawing



January Book winners include James Whitney Lamar Hartline, Kim Jacobs, John Maly, and Gary Schnell.

New Campaign Prizes

Civil War Roundtable Prizes for 2018 – 2019 Campaign Season

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



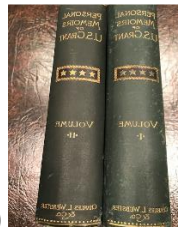
- 3 Longstreet Pocket Watch



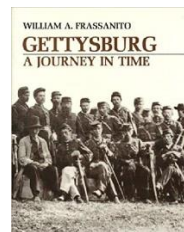
- 4 Print – “Confederate Infantry Army of Northern Virginia” – Rick Reeve (signed and numbered)



- 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 page 11

1. What famous church in present-day Brooklyn Heights was the place of many abolition rallies?
a) Plymouth Church b) St. Elizabeth's c) Trinity Church d) First Baptist
2. What political party won the support of many black abolitionists in 1840? What political party founded by disaffected Democrats in New York gained black abolition support in 1848?
a. No Nothings/Democrats
b. Whigs/Democrats
c. Liberty Party/Free Soil Party
d. None of the above
3. What was the Port Royal Experiment?
a. Program where former slaves worked abandoned land.
b. Program where former slaves ran the railroads.
c. Program where former slaves ran local stores.
d. None of the above
4. Who was the reputed president of the Underground Railroad?
a. Abraham Lincoln c. Harriet Beecher Stowe
b. Levi Coffin d. Frederick Douglas

American Civil War February 1863

Citation: C N Trueman "American Civil War February 1863"

historylearningsite.co.uk. The History Learning Site, 25 Mar 2015. 2 Jan 2019.

The economic blockade of the South during the [American Civil War](#) started to really hit home by February 1863 with the South's currency worth just 20% of its pre-war value. The weather meant that important military issues were kept to a minimum though the intelligence network of the Army of the Potomac was completely revamped.

February 1st: The dollar used in the Confederacy was worth just 20% of what it did when the war broke out. Such was the success of the Federal Navy in the rivers of the South that a decision was taken to remove

any stores of cotton away from rivers. Any cotton that could not be moved was burned to save it falling into the hands of the Union.

February 2nd: Grant started his attempt to build a canal around to the rear of Vicksburg using the Yazoo River as his source of water. By doing this, Grant's men would avoid the Confederate artillery stationed in Vicksburg.

February 3rd: The French continued to offer attempts at mediation. Secretary of State Seward met the French ambassador in Washington DC to discuss such a move.

February 5th: The British government announced that any attempts at mediation would result in failure. Their lack of action was in stark contrast to the pro-active stance of the French government.

February 6th: The Federal government officially announced that it had rejected French offers of mediation.

February 9th: General Hooker started his reorganisation of the Army of the Potomac. He decided that his first task was to improve its intelligence gathering. On his arrival at his headquarters he found no document that could inform him about the strength of the Army of Virginia. General Butterfield wrote: "There was no means, no organisation, and no apparent effort to obtain such information. We were almost as ignorant of the enemy in our immediate front as if they had been in China. An efficient organisation for that purpose was instituted, by which we were so enabled to get correct and proper information of the enemy, their strengths and movements."

February 11th: Hooker then turned his attention to the conditions his men lived under, which he linked to the high levels of desertion. New huts were built that could cope with the winter weather and fresh fruit and vegetables were provided. Medical facilities were also improved. The impact on desertions was dramatic and even men who had deserted returned to their regiments.

February 12th: The Union's naval blockade had a disastrous impact on the South's economy and the river patrols of its flat-bottomed boats were equally as successful. However, the sheer size of the fleet operating meant that the Federal government faced a supply problem no one had encountered before. It was estimated that the North had to supply 70,000 bushels of coal each month to keep the fleet on the move. Food and water could be obtained locally but there was little chance of getting hold of large quantities of coal.

February 13th: General Hooker made what was to prove to be one of the most important changes to the Army of the Potomac during the war. Scattered cavalry units were amalgamated into one corps. No one was immediately appointed to command it as no army commander had ever had access to one concentrated cavalry unit. Hooker was willing to wait to appoint the most suitable candidate – he later selected General Stoneman to command it.

February 16th: The Senate passed the Conscription Act, which was passed, as volunteers for the Union army were not forthcoming.

February 22nd: Hooker believed that his changes were starting to have an impact as the levels of scurvy and intestinal diseases dropped quite markedly.

February 25th: Congress authorised a national system of banking.

ANSWERS FOR DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Quiz page 09

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

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

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!