# Eastern Pennsylvania, Inc

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# Civil War Roundtable of Eastern Pennsylvania, Inc.

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We strive for accuracy. But if you see something that doesn't look right, please contact us. Sources for newsletter content available upon request.

#### From the Brigade Commander

How quickly a coating of rust can form on a process not put in use for a long time! It wasn't until we had adjourned our Campaign 44 kickoff meeting that we realized we had forgotten to announce our Campaign 43 preservation awards. You'll find that information inside, on page 2, and I think you'll be pleased with the choices made. I also hope that you'll take pride in the knowledge that the dollars you "invest" in membership fees, donations and raffle ticket purchases are helping to keep living classrooms and chapters of American history from vanishing.

CWRT of Eastern Pa. member, Blake Barbarics was a big winner at our kick-off meeting. His ticket was among those pulled for a Print Raffle prize, and three of his tickets were pulled during the Book Raffle drawing. You'll find a complete list of Print Raffle and Book Raffle winners inside. But if you ask me, those of us there and together, finally, after such a long hiatus, all felt like winners that night.

I hope you will be able to join us for our next meeting, scheduled for October 5, 2021. You'll find speaker information and a synopsis of his presentation inside.

In this newsletter edition, you'll find an interwoven theme of October "firsts," including an offer for prizes to the person who brings in the greatest number of new recruits by January 1, 2022. You can learn more about this incentive program inside.

Barry

The Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc. is a proud leader of America's battlefield preservation movement. It has been designated by the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) as a Top 300 Lifetime Donor, a Color Bearer, and a member of ABT's 20-Year Club.

\* \* \* \* \* \* Our 44th Campaign Year! \* \* \* \* \* \*

## Join us as Robert M. Dunkerly presents: Forgotten Surrenders of the Civil War

Tuesday, October 5, 2021



While Appomattox is the most famous Civil War surrender, it is also the least representative of how the war ended—the closing of the war was not the neat ending we assume from Appomattox; it was a long,

drawn out, and bitter process. This presentation will explore the other surrenders (in North Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and the Indian Territory), each of which unfolded differently, with its own set of circumstances.

Robert M. (Bert) Dunkerly is a historian, awardwinning author, and speaker who is actively involved in historic preservation and research. He holds a degree in History from St. Vincent College and a Masters in Historic Preservation from Middle Tennessee State University. He has worked at 14 historic sites and has written over a dozen books and numerous scholarly articles. His research includes archaeology, colonial life, military history, and historic commemoration.

Bert is past President of the Richmond Civil War Round Table and currently serves on the preservation committee of the American Revolution Round Table of Richmond. He has taught courses at Central Virginia Community College, the University of Richmond, and the Virginia Historical Society. He is currently a park ranger at Richmond National Battlefield Park. He has visited more than 500 battlefields and 1,000 historic sites worldwide. He enjoys exploring local bookstores, battlefields, and breweries: not necessarily in that order.

**Dinner & lecture fee**: **\$25 \* Lecture-only fee**: **\$5** (All fees are payable at the door.) Dinner start: 6:30 p.m. **\*** Lecture start: 7 p.m.

(continued on next page)

Campaign 42/43 Preservation Awards \$500 to the GAR Civil War Museum (Phila.)

**\$500** to acquire 158 acres at two sites of the Gettysburg campaign ( Am. Battlefield Trust - ABT)

**\$2,000** to acquire 407 acres at Corinth, Champion Hill, Chatanooga, and Port Hudson (ABT)

**\$2,000** to acquire four acres at Manassas Nationall Battlefield Park (ABT)

#### Campaigns 42/43 Print Raffle Winners



Front Row: Sherri Miller Back Row: Nancy Becker, Laura Kleinschmidt, Marie Maly, Blake Barbarics, Kim Jacobs, Wayne Schaeffer. Not pictured: Ed Oeschele (2 prizes), Dick Dias, Joe Riggs, Jim Duffy.

**September Book Raffle Winners** As always, raffle proceeds benefit preservation efforts. Thanks to everyone who "invested" in saving Civil War history.



(l-r) Wayne Schaeffer, Bill Frankenfield, and Blake Barbarics.

#### October, 2021, meeting information (continued)

The deadline to reserve your spot for dinner is Friday, October 1. To register for dinner, contact Jim Duffy at <u>Duffysocwk@aol.com</u> or 610-253-4549 (email preferred) <u>prior to 12:00 p.m</u>. on Friday. **No reservations are required for walk-in lecture attendees.** 

## By the Numbers: The Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa. Inc.

#### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE (Jeff Gates)

In the area of reenlistments, we're off to a great start! Since our last newsletter, 16 people have rejoined us for Campaign 44.

#### PAYMASTER UPDATE (Jim Duffy)

**Preservation donations:** Since our last newsletter, the following individuals have made a donation to our preservation fund: Wayne Blattner, Neil and Kathleen Coddington, John Duffy, Jan Fisher, Claire Kukielka, Kay Bagenstose, Bruce Rissmiller, Joe Riggs and Joseph Brewer. Thank you! These donations, equaling \$280, represent a good start to Campaign 44. Thank you.

### **Recent CWRT Website Postings**



# Visit <u>cwrteasternpa.org/news</u> to view details about the items listed below:

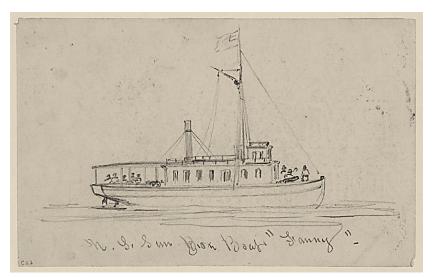
September 5: Jeffrey L. Nichols Takes Reins of National Civil War Museum August 3: Gettysburg Civil War Institute Returns Live—"North Carolinians at Gettysburg," October 8-10, 2021 July 22: Walking Tours at Gettysburg by Adams County Historical Society Visit <u>cwrteasternpa.org/preservation</u> to view details about the items listed below:

August 26: Land Transferred at Harper's Ferry

**NEW FOR THIS CAMPAIGN YEAR!** As incentive to recruit new members for the CWRT of Eastern Pa., we're offering prizes to the current member who brings in the largest number of new recruits between now and January 1, 2022:

Framed 14 1/2 x 12 - "Erin for Glory," with a Gettysburg postal stamp Framed 14 1/2 x 11 - "Gettysburg," with a Gettysburg postal stamp Framed 9 1/2 x 71/2 - Print: Union soldier shaking his fist at Confederates at Gettysburg.

## October 1, 1861 *Fanny*: The First Self-Propelled U.S. Aircraft Carrier is Captured by Confederates



balloon flights had taken place on barges.)

Balloon operation results during the Civil War were mixed at best: Filling the balloon with hydrogen and transporting all of the needed paraphernalia sometimes outweighed the benefits. But the scheme did introduce military branches to the possibilities of aerial weapons and, today, some consider the *Fanny* and early ships like her to be antecedents of current-day aircraft carriers.

On August 3, 1861, balloonist John LaMountain made an ascent of 2,000 feet from *Fanny's* deck to observe Confederate batteries at Sewell's Point on Chesapeake Bay, Virginia. His feat was part of an aerial reconnaissance campaign. More ship-based operations followed this initial success and mostly took place on the Potomac River and its tributaries and the waters around Fort Monroe in the Chesapeake Bay. The Confederate Army would later form its own, smaller version of the Balloon Corps.

\* Fanny's 30-pounder Sawyer rifle is reportedly on display at the Navy Yard in Washington D.C. The USS Fanny a small, propellerdriven steam tug (pictured, left), used first by the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps and, later, by the Confederate Navy, was run aground and blown up by its captain during the Battle of Roanoke Island in February, 1862. Only the main gun, called a 30-pounder Sawyer rifle, could be salvaged\*. Despite its untimely, fiery death, the Fanny distinguished itself as the first U.S. ship to be used as a balloon carrier. (Previously launched

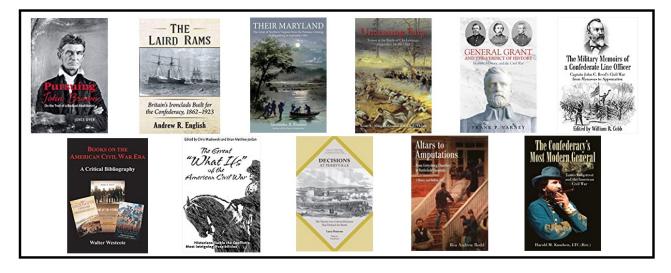
When the war broke out, John LaMountain (right) rushed to Washington D.C., hoping to be appointed Chief Aeronaut. But since political support counted, Thaddeus S. C. Lowe,

was appointed instead. Even so, LaMountain was able to make some of the first aerial observations of the war and sketched the first known map of an enemy position and movements at Sewell's Point.



### October, 2021, Civil War Book Releases

We share, for informational purposes only, what is most certainly a partial listing of books earmarked for an October, 2021, release.



Pursuing John Brown: On the Trail of a Radical Abolitionist by Joyce Dyer | Oct 1, 2021

The Laird Rams: Britain's Ironclads Built for the Confederacy, 1862-1923, by Andrew R. English | Oct 4, 2021

Their Maryland: The Army of Northern Virginia From the Potomac Crossing to Sharpsburg in September 1862 by Alexander B. Rossino | Oct 7, 2021

Unceasing Fury: Texans at the Battle of Chickamauga, September 18-20, 1863, by Scott L. Mingus Sr. and Joseph L. Owen | Oct 7, 2021

General Grant and the Verdict of History: Memoir, Memory, and the Civil War by Frank P. Varney | Oct 7, 2021 (originally scheduled for a September, 2021 release)

The Military Memoirs of a Confederate Line Officer: Captain John C. Reed's Civil War from Manassas to Appomattox by William R. Cobb | Oct 7, 2021 (originally scheduled for a September, 2021 release)

Books on the American Civil War Era: A Critical Bibliography by Walter Westcote | Oct 7, 2021

The Great "What Ifs" of the American Civil War: Historians Tackle the Conflict's Most Intriguing Possibilities, by Chris Mackowski PhD and Brian Matthew Jordan | Oct 22, 2021

Decisions at Perryville: The Twenty-Two Critical Decisions That Defined the Battle (Command Decisions in America's Civil War) Paperback by Lawrence K. Peterson | Oct 22, 2021

Altars to Amputations: From Gettysburg Churches to Battlefield Hospitals: A History and Walking Tour by Rea Andrew Redd | Oct 26, 2021

The Confederacy's Most Modern General: James Longstreet and the American Civil War by Harold M. Knudsen LTC (Ret.) | Oct 26, 2021 (originally scheduled for a, Oct, 2020, release)

#### October 24, 1861 President Abraham Lincoln Becomes First "Wired" President



During the first year of his administration, President Abraham Lincoln averaged only one telegram per month. But as he became more and more frustrated by the war's plodding progress, he embraced the telegram as a better way to send orders to his officers and take greater control of the war effort. By the end of his presidency, Lincoln had sent nearly 1,000 "lightning messages," as he called them.

Lincoln was said to have sat in telegraph offices for hours, reading telegrams not

necessarily addressed to him, and often jumping in after reading his generals' conversations. For example, when General Ulysses S. Grant rejected General Henry Halleck's suggestion to remove troops from the siege of Petersburg in 1864, the president lent this support: "Hold on with a bull-dog grip, and chew and choke as much as possible." When news of Grant's capture of Vicksburg, Mississippi, arrived by wire in 1863, Lincoln bought beer for the operators and drank a toast while holding the general's telegram in his hand. On April 8, 1865, Lincoln himself telegraphed news of Grant's capture of Richmond.

➤ Secretary of War Edward Stanton's handwritten telegram, written at Lincoln's deathbed across from Ford's Theatre, announcing Lincoln's death one week after the capture of Richmond.

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#### **Campaign 44 Fall Presentations**

Our lineup of speakers for Campaign 44 offers multiple chances for greater understanding of the American Civil War; these presentations are sure to leave you feeling inspired. For your planning purposes, we share the remainder of our Fall, 2021, presentation lineup:

Date	Title
November 2	Veterans' Reunion of 1913 at Gettysburg
December 7	Armistead and Hancock

**Speaker** Michael Jesberger Tom McMillan

## Campaign 44 Print Raffle Preservation Fundraiser

Just a reminder that proceeds from our Print Raffle go to preservation efforts. Please send your check (\$5 for a 10-ticket booklet), payable to "Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.," to: P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105. Your ticket stubs will be returned to you by return mail.

## Sorry. Photos not yet available.

**1.** Three books by Hampton Newsome (all signed by the author): "Civil War Talks", "Richmond Must Fall" and "The Fight for the Old North State."

**2.** Framed facsimile of "Gettysburg Address" (16 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 13 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>").

3. Original pencil drawing, Winter Quarters of General Miles (Mar 21, 1865),

by William Lydston Jr.

**4.** Framed 16 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 14 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" statement about pin hole photo with \$100 U.S. Confederate note.

5. Civil War Centennial teacup and saucer (Jefferson Davis' picture on teacup)

6. Glass tray adorned with portrait of Grant.

7. Black tray adorned with picture of Abraham Lincoln and words, "Springfield IL."

8. Framed  $14 \frac{1}{2}$  x 11" print of Gettysburg with a Gettysburg postal stamp.

#### **Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.** CAMPAIGN 44 MEMBERSHIP FORM (2021-2022)

Please complete the form below and mail it along with your Campaign 44 dues to **CWRT of Eastern Pa.**, **Inc.**, **P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105**. Make your check payable to: **"CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc."** 

Select one:	Indicate your membership preference:			
I am reenlisting for Campaign 44	Individual: \$25			
I am a new recruit	Full-time student: \$10			
Name:	Email address:			
Mailing address:				
Phone number:				
I am including a donation (in addition to my membership dues) \$				
Your donation will be used by the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. to benefit preservation efforts related to the Civil War, i.e., supporting the vital work of museums and saving battlefield acreage from development.				
(NEW RECRUITS): Please tell us about your American Civil War interests and experiences:				
How did you hear of the CWRT Round Table of Eastern Pa.?				
Are you a reenactor (Yes/No)? If yes, unit(s)?				
Use the space below to share name(s) and unit(s) of ancestor(s) who fought in the Civil War:				
(NEW RECRUITS AND REENLISTERS):				
Do you have a particular interest in the Civil War? If so, please note in the space provided below:				
Are you willing to speak to groups on some aspect of the Civil War (Yes/No)?				
Are you interested in participating in Round Table activities (Yes/No)? If yes, please specify below: public functions political action preservation living history other (use below):				
Sending newsletters and other information to our members via email speeds the distribution process and allows us to divert more funds to preservation and conservation. By providing us with your email address, you are giving the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. permission to contact you and/or send information to you via email. We rarely have a need to contact our members by phone, but having this information on file is occasionally very helpful. The CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. will NEVER share your contact informa- tion unless it has obtained your permission in advance to do so.				

The Civil War Round Table of Eastern, Pa., Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your membership dues are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.