



November, 2021

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Jim Duffy

Membership Director:

Jeff Gates

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Jeff Gates

Kim Jacobs

Tony Major

Ed Root

Frank Whelan

Newsletter Editor:

Marie Maly

Webmaster:

Paul Bartlett

**Civil War Roundtable of
Eastern Pennsylvania, Inc.**

P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105

cwrteasternpa@gmail.com

www.cwrteasternpa.org

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

We had a nice turnout for last month's meeting and more lecture walk-ins than we've seen in a while—a trend I hope to see continue. You can help make this possible by sharing news of our lectures with your friends, coworkers, neighbors and family members. You'll find a partial listing of Campaign 44 lectures inside and a complete listing on our website.

Our lectures are less than half the cost of a movie theater ticket (\$5) and enlighten, inspire and fire the imagination with examples of heroism, cowardice, faith and fearlessness—enough to leave anyone feeling more than satisfied. (Your friends are also welcome to join us for dinner, by the way.) Plus, don't forget that we've got an incentive program in place right now for the member who brings in the highest number of new members. You'll find program details inside.

Last month's speaker, Bert Dunkerly, treated attendees to an excellent lecture about all of the Civil War surrenders that occurred after Appomattox. (Inside, you'll find a story about the very last of the Confederate generals to surrender.) This month, historian and reenactor Mike Jesberger will present a lecture about the 1913 Reunion at Gettysburg, an event now almost forgotten. Touted as the "Great Reunion," it turned out to be more about men seeking deeply personal interactions and a desire to bury the hatchet and heal.

We continue with a Confederate theme in this month's newsletter, which showcases several officers—one who behaved badly, one honorably, and one insisting they were just following orders. Enjoy!

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 Mike Jesberger presents:
The 1913 Reunion at Gettysburg**

Tuesday, November 2, 2021



Between June 29 and July 4, 1913, more than 50,000 Civil War veterans, ranging in age between 60 and 112, plus another 50,000 spectators, descended on a place where a great battle had

happened 50 years earlier. The place was called Gettysburg, and they came to attend an occasion promoted as the Grand Reunion.

When President Abraham Lincoln said, during his 1862 Gettysburg Address, "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here," he couldn't have known how spectacularly mistaken this prediction would turn out to be or how aptly his words would summarize the 1913 Grand Reunion. For even though the gathering was a widely anticipated, momentous event, this largest-of-all-Civil War veterans' reunions is now all but forgotten.

Michael Jesberger is an independent military historian who specializes in the American Revolution and Civil War time periods. He is a historical reenactor, lecturer and tour guide known for his depth and breadth of knowledge and engaging and passionate presentation style. Michael is also a member of numerous history-based organizations and has participated in numerous battle reenactments, living history programs, and ceremonies to honor American veterans.

Dinner & lecture fee: \$25 ★ Lecture-only fee: \$5
(All fees are payable at the door.)

Center 100 Hotel • 7736 Adrienne Dr. • Breinigsville

Dinner start: 6:30 p.m. ★ Lecture start: 7:15 p.m.

Deadline to reserve a spot for dinner: Fri., Oct 29 by/before 12:00 p.m. To register, contact Jim Duffy (duffysocwk@aol.com) or 610-253-4549 (email preferred).

Walk-in lecture reservations are not required!



October Book Raffle Winners

(front) Sherri Miller

(back, l-r) Gary Weaver, Gary Haas, Wayne Schaeffer, Blake Barbarics

Raffle proceeds benefit preservation efforts. Thanks to everyone who invested donation dollars last month to save Civil War history. As you can see (above), Blake Barbarics' lucky streak is still intact ... this month, he won two books (in addition to the three books he won the previous month). And Wayne Schaeffer has taken home a book two months in a row. Congrats to all!

In Memoriam: Roger J. Tice

Our friend Roger died in his home on September 15. He is survived by his wife, Susan J. (Kremer) Tice, daughter, Melanie Jo (Tice) Schiffert, grandchildren, Thomas Schiffert and Tara Schiffert, and a grandniece.

Roger faithfully and honorably served his country in the U.S. Navy during the peacetime era prior to the Vietnam War. In addition to his membership in the CWRT of Eastern Pa., he was a member of the National Speleological Society (an organization devoted to exploration, conservation and study of caves) and All Frets (the Fretted Instrument Guild of America).

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

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE (*Jeff Gates*)

Reenlistments:

Since our last newsletter, 14 more Campaign 43 members have renewed for Campaign 44. Thanks for the continued support!



As incentive to recruit new members for the CWRT of Eastern Pa., we're offering three framed prizes to the member who brings in the largest number of new recruits between now and January 1, 2022:

Print: "Erin for Glory" (14½" x 12"). A Gettysburg postal stamp is displayed below the print

Print: "Gettysburg (14½" x 11)". A Gettysburg postal stamp is displayed below the print

Print: No title (9½" x 7½"). Union soldier shaking his fist at Confederates at Gettysburg.

PAYMASTER UPDATE (*Jim Duffy*)

Preservation donations: Since our last newsletter, we've received another \$75 in donations from Kay Bagenstose and Marie and John Maly, bringing our Campaign 44 member donation total to \$355. Thank you.

Recent Website Postings



It pays to occasionally check our website, because webmaster Paul Barlett posts information about events, among other news items, that may have come and gone by the time our next newsletter publishes:

Civil War Community News:

cwrteasternpa.org/news

Oct 17: 160th Anniversary of Battle of Ball's Bluff to be Observed on Oct. 23

Oct 13: Lincoln: A President Surrounded by Chaos, Mystified by Magic

Oct 13: Antietam Nat'l Battlefield

Developing Plan to Better Preserve History

Oct 6: National Parks Service Announces \$917,173 in Battlefield Interpretation Grants

Oct 5: Deer Management Program at Gettysburg

Sept 27: Farming in Gettysburg National Park

Sept 26: Virginia Dept. of Historical Resources Announces Battlefield Grants

Sept 23: Preservation Victory at Fisher's Hill

Civil War Preservation News:

cwrteasternpa.org/preservation

Oct 13: Central Va. Battlefield Trust Announces Preservation Opportunity at Chancellorsville

Oct 5: Help Save Endangered Acres at Gaines Mill and Cold Harbor

Brigade News:

cwrteasternpa.org/brigade-news

Oct 6: Recap of October lecture, "Forgotten Surrenders of the Civil War."



November 7, 1861

General Gideon Johnson Pillow among Confederate Forces Victorious against Union at Belmont, Missouri

(Left) A depiction of General Pillow, who was a wealthy Confederate general. The drawing pokes fun at his surname and suggests that he was a soft, brainless man who could easily be defeated by Union troops.

Though he received thanks from the Confederate Congress for driving off Union forces at the Battle of Belmont, Pillow is later credited for failing to exploit a breakthrough of Union lines by his troops at the Battle of Fort Donelson in 1862—an action that might have allowed the garrison to escape. As if this [in]action wasn't enough to seal his legacy, a day later, Pillow passed command of the fort to General Buckner so that he could escape capture. Amazingly, it would take another year before the Confederacy removed him from combat command, an action that occurred following the Battle of Stones River: He had performed so poorly here that he was reassigned (permanently) to handling recruiting assignments.

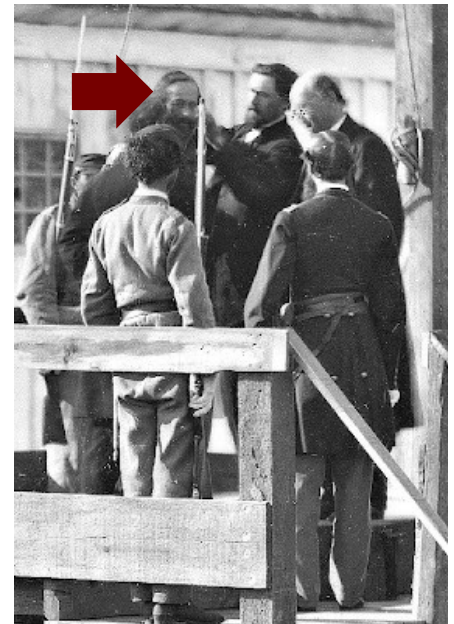
November 10, 1865

Confederate Officer Henry Wirz Hanged

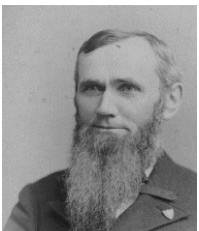
"Vat you tink dem Yankees do, if dey get me prisoner, up Nort-eh?... Dey vill kill me sure! But I shall take care dey vill no catch me – but if dey do I am certain dey vill kill me so quick – so quick, I tell you – dat I shall know nothing about it!"

Captain Heinrich Hartmann (Henry) Wirz

Swiss American Henry Wirz, who served as the commandant of Camp Sumter (Andersonville) and was convicted in 1865 of conspiracy and murder and sentenced to be hanged to death—a conviction that remains controversial to this day. Although the words credited to him (above) were somewhat prophetic, Wirz' death did not, in fact, come quickly. When the trapped door upon which Wirz was standing sprang open, his neck did not break from the fall, and the crowd of 200 (which paid to attend the spectacle) and the 120 soldiers (there to control the spectators), looked on as Wirz writhed and slowly strangled.



Interestingly, both the prosecution and the defense sought to prove that Wirz was simply following orders: Prosecutors hoped to convict higher-ranking Confederate officials; Wirz hoped to absolve himself by passing responsibility up the chain of command.

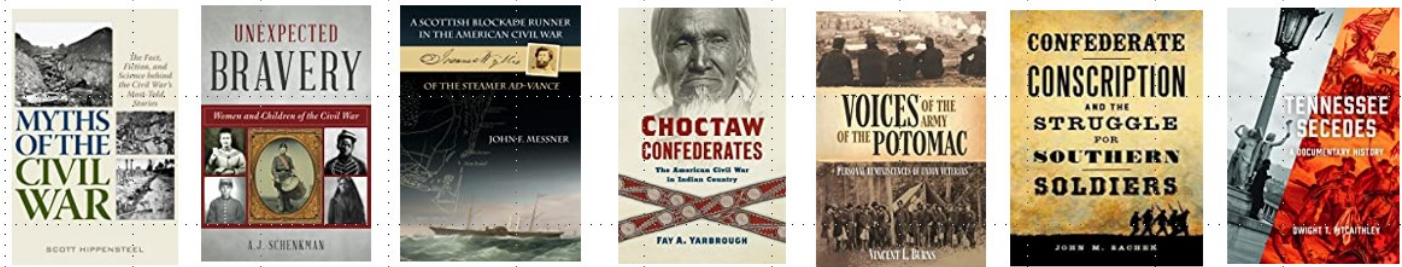


William Hosack was interred at three Confederate prisoner-of-war camps, including Andersonville. You can find his story, which is based on writings in the journal he kept, on [fold3.com](https://blog.fold3.com/reflections-of-a-civil-war-pow/?utm_source=find&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=find-Oct-2021).

https://blog.fold3.com/reflections-of-a-civil-war-pow/?utm_source=find&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=find-Oct-2021

November, 2021, Civil War Book Releases

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



“Myths of the Civil War: The Fact, Fiction, and Science behind the Civil War’s Most-Told Stories,” by Scott Hippensteel | Nov 1

“Unexpected Bravery: Women and Children of the Civil War,” by A.J. Schenkman | Nov 1

“A Scottish Blockade Runner in the American Civil War: Joannes Wyllie of the Steamer Ad-Vance,” by John F. Messner | Nov 1

“Choctaw Confederates: The American Civil War in Indian Country,” by Fay A. Yarbrough | Nov 2

“Voices of the Army of the Potomac: Personal Reminiscences of Union Veterans,” by Vincent L. Burns | Nov 5

“Confederate Conscription and the Struggle for Southern Soldiers,” by John M. Sacher | Nov 17

“Tennessee Secedes: A Documentary History,” by Dwight Pitcaithley | Nov 29

Upcoming Campaign 44 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 current presentation schedule through April, 2022:

Date	Title	Speaker
December 7	Armistead and Hancock: Behind the Gettysburg Legend	Tom McMillan
January 4	Judah Benjamin and Grant’s Order #11 (<i>originally scheduled for February, 2022</i>)	Rich Rosenthal
February 1	We Fight for Our Rights, Liberty, Justice, and Union: The Battle of New Market Heights (US Colored Troops)	Tim Talbott
March 1	Myths and Meanings of the Civil War	Randall Miller
April 5	His Record Lives: William P. Randal and the Battle of Hampton Roads	Gordon Calhoun

For a complete listing of Campaign 44 presentations, visit www.cwrteasterpa.org/calendar-1

Stand Watie: The Last Confederate General to Surrender



Stand Watie, named Degadaga (De-ga-da-ga) at birth, which means “he stands,” was the son of a full-blood Cherokee man and his half-blood wife, Susanna Reese.

Stand Watie, second principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, was a signer of the Treaty of New Echota of 1835, which gave traditional Cherokee lands in Georgia (where gold had recently been discovered) and North Carolina to the U.S in exchange for money and land in the Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma). But in Watie’s mind, securing rights from the government via treaty was preferable to fighting what seemed an inevitable removal of the Cherokee. He resettled with his family and developed a successful plantation in Oklahoma—complete with enslaved workers.

When the Civil War broke out, Watie sided with the Confederacy, viewing the federal government to be the Cherokee’s principal enemy. He raised the first Indian regiment of the Confederate Army (the 2nd Cherokee Mounted Rifles), which he commanded at the Battle of Pea Ridge (March 7-8, 1862). He then commanded a brigade of Native American troops that fought in 18 battles or major skirmishes and several, smaller skirmishes and raids. In 1864, he became the first Native American to be promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

(A second Native American, Ely S. Parker, a member of the Seneca Nation, who penned U.S. Grant’s terms of surrender for Robert E. Lee at Appomattox, rose to the rank of brigadier general following the war.)

In September, 1864, Indian Confederates routed the Federals at the second Battle of Cabin Creek and captured a wagon train comprised of 130 wagons, 740 mules, plus commissary supplies and other needed items, which allowed the by then near-destitute Indian forces to continue in the war. So committed, in fact, was Watie that he refused to acknowledge the Union victory and kept his troops in the field for nearly a month after Lieutenant General E. Kirby Smith surrendered the rest of the Confederacy’s Trans-Mississippi Army on May 26, 1865. It took the urging of Peter Pitchlynn, Chief of the Choctaw Republic, for Watie to acquiesce and lay down arms, surrendering his battalion of Creek, Seminole, Cherokee, and Osage Indians to Union Lieutenant Colonel Asa C. Matthews at Doaksville, Oklahoma (near Fort Towson) on June 23—a full 75 days after Lee met with Grant at Appomattox.

Following the war, Watie remained in exile in the Choctaw Nation until 1867. He then left to rebuild his home, which had been burned to the ground by the Federals. He died there on September 9, 1871.



At Appomattox, Ely Parker is credited to have said that General Lee, after having stared at Parker for a while, remarked, “I am glad to see one real American here.” Shaking Lee’s hand, Parker replied, “We are all Americans.” When General Grant was elected as US president, he appointed Parker as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the first Native American to hold that post.

Campaign 44 Print Raffle Preservation Fundraiser

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.



Prizes presented above in counterclockwise order:

1. Three books by FTC attorney and Civil War author 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 ½" x 13 ½").
3. Original pencil drawing, Winter Quarters of General Miles (Mar 21, 1865), by William Lydston Jr.
4. Framed 16 ½" x 14 ½" 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 Illinois."
8. Framed 14 1/2" x 11" print of Gettysburg with a Gettysburg postal stamp.
9. Civil War Battle Flags of the Union Army and Order of Battle (oversize book, 177 pp.)

Can You Help?

National supply chain issues are driving up the purchase price of almost everything, including the corrugated cardboard boxes we use to store donated books for our monthly book raffles, which help us to raise preservation funds. We ask you to kindly scrounge around your basement, attic and any other home-based storage locations for sturdy boxes you may be willing to donate. We're looking for boxes that measure approximately 16" long x 13" wide x 13" depth. If you have a box (or boxes) that are exactly or very close to the desired size, kindly break it down (flatten it) and bring it along with you to our November 2, 2021, meeting. Thank you!

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: <input type="checkbox"/> I am reenlisting for Campaign 44 <input type="checkbox"/> I am a new recruit	Indicate your membership preference: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time student: \$10
Name: _____	Email address: _____
Mailing address: _____	
Phone number: _____	
I am including a donation (in addition to my membership dues) \$ _____.	
<i>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.</i>	
(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 <u>AND</u> 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: <input type="checkbox"/> public functions <input type="checkbox"/> political action <input type="checkbox"/> preservation <input type="checkbox"/> living history <input type="checkbox"/> 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 information 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.**