



December, 2021

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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

With several brigade meetings now under our belt, it's starting to feel like the old days again. And that feels really good!

We've got another, terrific presentation lined up for our December 8th meeting. Tom McMillan will return to the CWRT of Eastern Pa. stage to share the true story of the relationship between C.S.A. general Lewis Armistead and U.S. general Winfield Scott Hancock. You'll find details on page 2.

Inside this issue, you'll also get a sneak peek at the June, 2022, field trip to Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Our guide for the day will be none other than Dennis Frye, former chief historian at Harper's Ferry and recipient of the Distinguished Service Award—the Department of the Interior's highest honor. Hearing Dennis speak is an almost incomparable treat, and we hope you'll be able to join us. We'll share more details about the trip as soon as we can.

In the meantime, I offer best wishes to you and yours for a safe and joyous holiday season.

Barry

P.S. 'Tis the season, in case you're thinking about year-end charitable giving. You need only to glance at our brigade's credentials (at the bottom of this page) or visit page 5 of this newsletter to appreciate the huge impact of individual giving when matched by challenge grants. Also, remember that the CARES Act was extended to the end of 2021, which means that even non-itemizers can deduct up to \$300 of charitable donations on their tax returns (\$600 for married couples filing jointly).

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 Tom McMillan presents:
Armistead and Hancock: Behind the Legend ...**

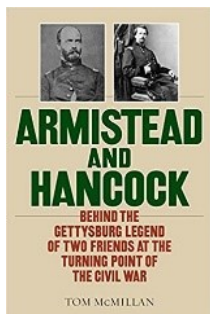
Tuesday, December 8, 2021, ~ 7:15 p.m. start



In a war of brother versus brother, the friendship of Union general Winfield Scott Hancock and Confederate general Lewis Armistead is perhaps the most famous. But did you know that history differs from the legend that

has held up these two men as sentimental symbols of a nation torn apart?

Please join us as historian, author and retired journalist and communication executive Tom McMillan returns to the Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa. to present the deeply researched—and true story—of Armistead’s and Hancock’s relationship.



Tom previously visited the CWRT of Eastern Pa. to share a presentation based on his book, “Gettysburg Rebels.” Copies of Tom’s latest book, “Armistead and Hancock” will be available for purchase on the 8th.

Armistead and Hancock: Behind the Legend ... with Tom McMillan

w/ Tom McMillan

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., Dec. 4
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!

November Book Raffle Winners



Raffle proceeds benefit preservation efforts. Thanks to everyone who invested donation dollars last month to help save Civil War history. Congrats!

A Message from the Board of Directors

Our thanks again to everyone who made donations and purchased print raffle tickets during Campaign 43. Because of your generosity, funds recently donated by the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc., after being matched by challenge grants, totalled \$45,395! Your support will make a lasting difference in the fight to save Civil War history. Congratulations to us all!

Our donations will help the American Battlefield Trust to preserve land on the following battlefields: Campion Hill (Louisiana), Gettysburg (Pennsylvania), Second Manassas (Virginia)*, Gaines’ Mill (Virginia)*, Cold Harbor (Virginia)*, and Second Deep Bottom (Virginia)*.

* You can read details on page 5 about the acreage that our most recent donations will help to preserve.



Civil War Community News:

cwrteasternpa.org/news

No Civil War news.

Civil War Preservation News:

cwrteasternpa.org/preservation

Nov 16: Protect Five Key Acres at Gettysburg

Oct 13: Central Virginia Battlefield Announces Preservation Opportunity at Chancellorsville

Brigade News:

cwrteasternpa.org/brigade-news

Nov 3: November 2 CWRT of Eastern Pa. lecture summary: “The 1913 Reunion at Gettysburg.”

NOTE: It pays to occasionally check our website, because webmaster Paul Barlett posts information about events that may be here and gone by the time our next newsletter publishes.

By the Numbers

Civil War Roundtable of Eastern Pa.

REENLISTMENTS (Jeff Gates)

Since our last newsletter, Carl Barna as renewed for Campaign 44, and Mike May has joined the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. Welcome, Mike!

As incentive to recruit new members for our CWRT, we’re offering three framed prizes to the member who brings in the largest number of new recruits **by the end of Campaign 44 (June, 2022)**. As we go to print with our last newsletter of 2022, Paul Barlett continues to hold on to his lead with two, new recruits.

Print: “Erin for Glory” (14 ½” x 12”). A Gettysburg postal stamp is displayed below the print.

Print: “Gettysburg” (14 ½” x 12”). A Gettysburg postal stamp is displayed below the print.

Print: No Title (9 ½” x 7 ½”). Union soldier shaking his fist at Confederates at Gettysburg.

PAYMASTER UPDATE (Jim Duffy)

Preservation Donations: Since our last newsletter, Kay Bagenstose made a donation to the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. Campaign 44 CWRT of Eastern Pa. member donations now total \$380. Thank you, Kay, and everyone else who has donated during Campaign 44.

Christmas during the Civil War

Officially, Christmas Day did not become a national holiday until Ulysses S. Grant declared it so in 1870, in his capacity as president of the United States. He knew that both North and South celebrated Christmas and, true to his unofficial campaign slogan, "Let us have peace," he signed the national holiday into law in the hope the act would help to reunite the country.

But it seems that at least some secret Santas (well, maybe not so secret) had been hard at work behind wartime scenes, years before the holiday was declared official, with intentions similar to Grant's. Stories abound, like the 90 Michigan soldiers who loaded wagons full of food and other surprises and distributed the items around the Georgia countryside under the power of mules that were adorned about the head with branches to mimic antlers.

* * *

► Digging through the treasure trove of Civil War telegram drafts yielded what may have possibly been the best Christmas gift ever:

"To his excellency, President Lincoln.
I beg to present you as a Christmas gift the city of Savannah with 150 heavy guns and plenty of ammunition and also about 25,000 bales of cotton."

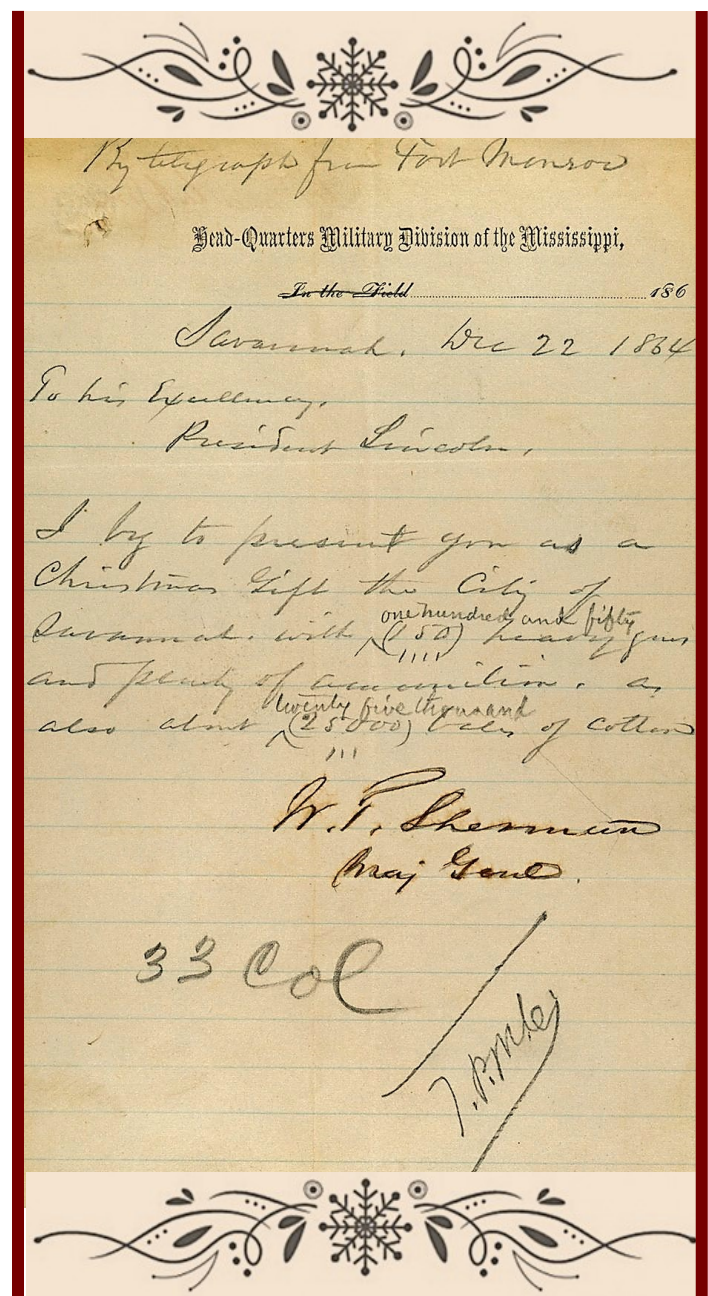
W. T. Sherman, Brig. Gen'l, Dec 22, 1864

And, because etiquette demanded that gifts be properly acknowledged, Lincoln naturally bowed to convention by replying to Sherman with his own telegram on December 26, which included, among other things, the following statement:

"My dear General Sherman:

... Many, many thanks for your Christmas gift in the capture of Savannah. ..."

Yours very truly A. LINCOLN.



CWRT of Eastern Pa. Donates Even More Battlefield Preservation Funds

This article provides details about a second round of battlefield preservation donations using Campaign 43 funds. (The details of the first round of funding were shared in our October, 2021, newsletter.)

At its October 26 meeting, the Board of Directors of the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. voted to donate additional funding for battlefield preservation, adding another \$5,000 to an already-released Campaign 43 sum of \$4,500. Here is a brief summary of the latest donations and where your raffle purchases and donated funds will go:

Phase II of the Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor Saved Forever Campaign

Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc. donation: \$250

Total donation post-matching funds (matched at \$3.25 to 1) \$819

Once the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) completed Phase I of this project, saving 108 acres, it moved to what it expects to be a multi-year Phase II to preserve 99 acres of land at the intersection of the battlefields of Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor. According to the Emerging Civil War's website, one of the most fascinating parts of Richmond National Battlefield is that the 1862 battlefield of Gaines' Mill sits perpendicular to the 1864 battle of Cold Harbor—on the same ground!

NOTE: The ABT recently announced that, while in the process of engaging around Phase II activities, it was alerted of an opportunity to secure 51 acres where Second Deep Bottom was fought, southeast of Richmond. Ultimately, the ABT decided to incorporate the Second Deep Bottom acreage into the Phase II project described above.

Critical Acres at Manassas National Battlefield Park

Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc. donation: \$250

Total donation post-matching funds (matched at \$5.13 to 1) \$1,282.50



The ABT had previously saved more than 370 acres of hallowed ground at the Manassas Battlefield. Now, it has the opportunity to save a small parcel of battlefield land (3.5 acres) in the northern part of the park, near the Sudley Church (pictured left) where the Union Army set up a field hospital and where, later, the 21st Georgia regiment used the church as a hospital.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 4, 2022

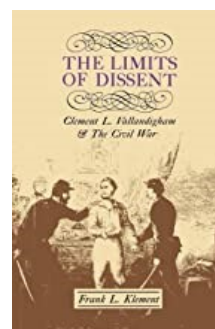
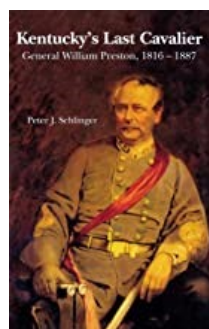
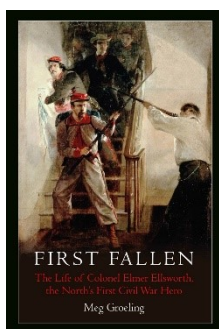
Visit to Harpers Ferry National Historical Park w/ retired National Park Service historian Dennis Frye

Morning: John Brown's War, featuring U.S. arsenal and armory sites; outbreak of war and Gen. T. J. Jackson and Confederate occupation of spring, 1861; the mystery of the U.S. Cavalry escape during the battle of Sept., 1862; life in a border town, with the Potomac River serving as an international boundary between the U.S.A and C.S.A.

(more on page 7)

December, 2021, Civil War Book Releases

We share, for informational purposes only, what is most certainly a partial listing of books currently earmarked for a December, 2021, release. *(Looks like at least several books are coming out first in Kindle format while ships loaded with books remain stuck in ports around the country.)*



First Fallen: The Life of Colonel Elmer Ellsworth, the North's First Civil War Hero by Meg Groeling | Dec, 2021

Kentucky's Last Cavalier: General William Preston, 1816 – 1887 by Peter J. Sehlinger | Dec 14, 2021

Kentuckians in Gray: Confederate Generals and Field Officers of the Bluegrass State, Bruce S. Allardice and Lawrence Lee Hewitt | Dec 14, 2021

The Limits of Dissent: Clement L. Vallandigham and the Civil War by Frank L. Klement | Dec 14, 2021

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 June, 2022:

Date	Title	Speaker
January 4	TBD	TBD
February 1	We Fight for Our Rights, Liberty, Justice, and Union: The Battle of New Market Heights (U.S. 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
May 3	Lest We Forget: The Origin and Traditions of Memorial Day	Jane Peters Estes
June 7	Blackberry Raid during Gettysburg Campaign	Hampton Newsome

To read lecture synopses, visit www.cwrteasterpa.org/calendar-1

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. You can also purchase booklets at every monthly meeting.



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 U.S. Grant.
7. Black tray adorned with picture of Abraham Lincoln and the 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).

(continued from page 5) **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park visit**

Afternoon: 1862 C.S.A. invasion; Jackson's siege and capture of Harpers Ferry; prelude to Antietam. Battlefield site visits to Bolivar Heights, Camp Hill and School House Ridge.

A \$10 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your place, cash or check (check payable to "Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.") Complete itinerary details to follow soon.

Contact: Claire Kukielka (clkuk@ptd.net)

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.**