



January, 2022

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Laura Kleinschmidt

Company Commander:

Claire Kukielka

Adjutant & Brigade Librarian:

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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

This newsletter brings great news! Once again, the Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc. has been named a Color Bearer of the American Battlefield Trust (ABT). In recognition of our Campaign 43 contributions, we have been assigned the designation of Brigade Color Bearer, a title reserved for individuals and groups donating between \$2,500 and \$4,999 over a one-year period. And although many of you already know the story, it bears repeating: Color Bearers (1,400 in strength) represent less than three percent of the ABT's total membership but donate nearly 50 percent of all monetary gifts. This accolade, and what it represents, was made possible by YOU in the form of membership fees, book raffle and print raffle ticket purchases and donations.

America thanks you, and I thank you, from the bottom of my heart!

I have to say that I'm really looking forward to our January lecture. As someone who thinks they know a lot about the American Civil War, I'm frequently surprised by how much more there is for me to learn. A case in point: Our January 4 speaker, Jim Remsen, will share the story of the now-nearly forgotten Camp Discharge, which, within a two-year period, was built, operated and disassembled. (See page 2 for more details.)

I hope you can join us for dinner and the lecture or for the lecture. And, please don't forget to share news of this event with folks you know who have an interest in Civil War and/or Pennsylvania history.

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 Brigade Color Bearer, and a member of ABT's 20-Year Club.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Our 44th Campaign Year! ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Jim Remsen presents:

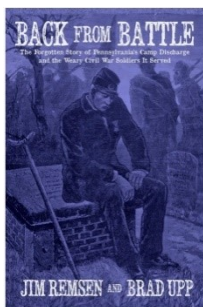
Back From Battle: The Forgotten Story of Camp Discharge (and the Weary Veterans It Served)

Tuesday, January 4, 2022, ~ 7:15 p.m. start



Camp Discharge was erected in 1864, on a slope above the Schuylkill River in Lower Merion Township, for a special mission: to muster out hundreds of eastern Pennsylvania soldiers that had been cut off from their regiments. Some had been waylaid by battle wounds or illness; others, by detached duty. A few had been deserters; nearly half had been POWs. By 1866, the post was gone, its site left unmarked, and the men it served had gone on to their uncertain futures in post-Civil War America.

Jim Remsen is a retired *Philadelphia Inquirer* journalist, historian and author. Coauthor, Brad Upp, is a re-enactor with the 69th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and a Board Member of the Lower Merion Historical Society.



Copies of the men's book, "Back From Battle," will be available for purchase. The book has been nominated for a Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History award.

Sign up Today! We Look Forward to Seeing You!

"The Forgotten Story of Camp Discharge and the Weary Veterans It Served," (Tues., January 4, 2022)

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

Center 100 Hotel • 7736 Adrienne Drive • Breinigsville

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

Deadline to reserve a spot for dinner: THURS., Dec. 30

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!

December Book Raffle Winners



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

★ ★ ★

A 1993 Preservation Project Remembered

Our own Ed Root recently shared a story at Emerging Civil War.com about Massachusetts monuments in the Gettysburg Battlefield that were moved years after being installed. The years-long battle for position in the area called "The Angle" or "Bloody Angle" eventually ended in a compromise, when bronze markers were installed, in 1891, in the spots where the monuments had first been placed.

The upshot: By the 1950s, the markers had fallen into disrepair and were removed. In 1993, the CWRT of Eastern Pa. used preservation funds to cover costs to repair the markers, and the markers were reinstalled later that year.

You can read the entire story from [Emerging Civil War.com](http://EmergingCivilWar.com).



Civil War Community News:

cwrteasternpa.org/news

Dec 17: *Reading Times* Article (1862):
“Why the Negro Cannot be Used as a
Soldier”

Dec 11: Adams County Historical Society
Campaign over \$8 Million

Dec 9: Civil War Era Personal Tintypes
Exposed (Read blog post [here](#).)

Dec 9: Gettysburg NHP Visitor Center
Begins Winter Hours

Nov 28: Gettysburg Foundation Donates
Civil War Calvary Saber to Japanese
Battlefield Museum

Civil War Preservation News:

cwrteasternpa.org/preservation

Dec 17: Save 99 Acres at Gaines’ Mill and
Cold Harbor

Brigade News:

cwrteasternpa.org/brigade-news

Dec 9: December, 2021, lecture recap:
“Armistead and Hancock—Behind the
Gettysburg Legend”

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, the following folks
have reenlisted for Campaign 44:

Fred Bomberger, Wade Cruse II, Richard Cruse,
Diane French, James Jenks and Ed Oechsle.

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). 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)

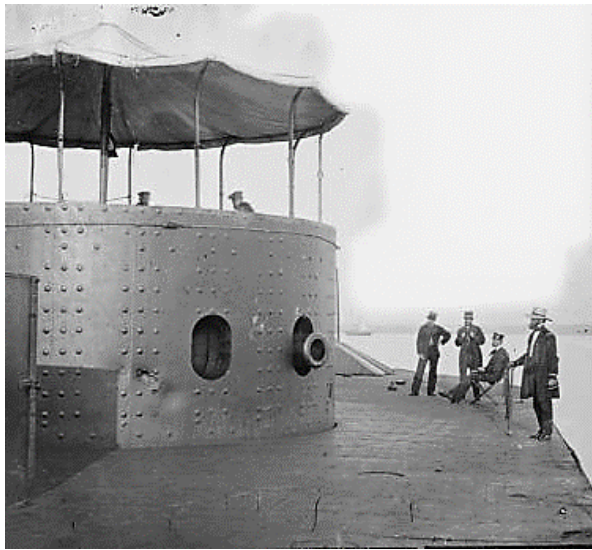
Preservation Donations: Kay Bagenstose,
Ed Oechsle and an anonymous donor are the
most recent Campaign 44 donors. Since our last
newsletter, CWRT of Eastern Pa. member
donations have increased to \$481. Thanks to our
latest donors—and everyone else who has made
a donation during Campaign 44.

*“Just as the heroic Color Bearers of
the Civil War distinguished them-
selves on the battlefield with their
courage, valor and dedication, our
Color Bearers distinguish themselves
by their extraordinary commitment
to the mission of saving our nation’s
most hallowed ground.”*

— American Battlefield Trust

January 30, 1862

The Strange Little Cheesebox on a Raft That Nearly Didn't Get Built



“The combat of the Merrimac [sic] and the Monitor made the greatest change in the sea-fighting since cannon fire by gunpowder had been mounted on ships about four hundred years before.”

— Winston Churchill

Few ships in American naval history have been so highly acclaimed as USS Monitor, a vessel that transformed naval warfare with its revolving turret. But it was almost never built, thanks to one, jealous man: Naval officer Robert Stockton.

Stockton copied John Ericsson's cannon design; that gun was installed aboard USS Princeton. When the ship's cannon exploded in February, 1844, killing two cabinet officers and several others, Stockton placed the blame on Ericsson and, using his political influence, was absolved of all responsibility. Decades later, with a war afoot, Ericsson set out to vindicate himself and show what he could do to revolutionize naval construction and help to win the war for the Union. But he would not have gotten very far had it not been for the intercession of Cornelius Scranton Bushnell, who had become involved in the race to build Union ironclads. Bushnell used his influence to arrange an audience for Ericsson with President Abraham Lincoln. During the meeting, as Lincoln held the pressboard model of Monitor in his hands, he is credited for having said, “All I have to say is what the girl said when she stuck her foot in the stocking: It strikes me there's something in it.” The design was approved eight days later. The ship was commissioned in New York on February 25, 1862. The press dubbed it a “cheesebox on a raft.”

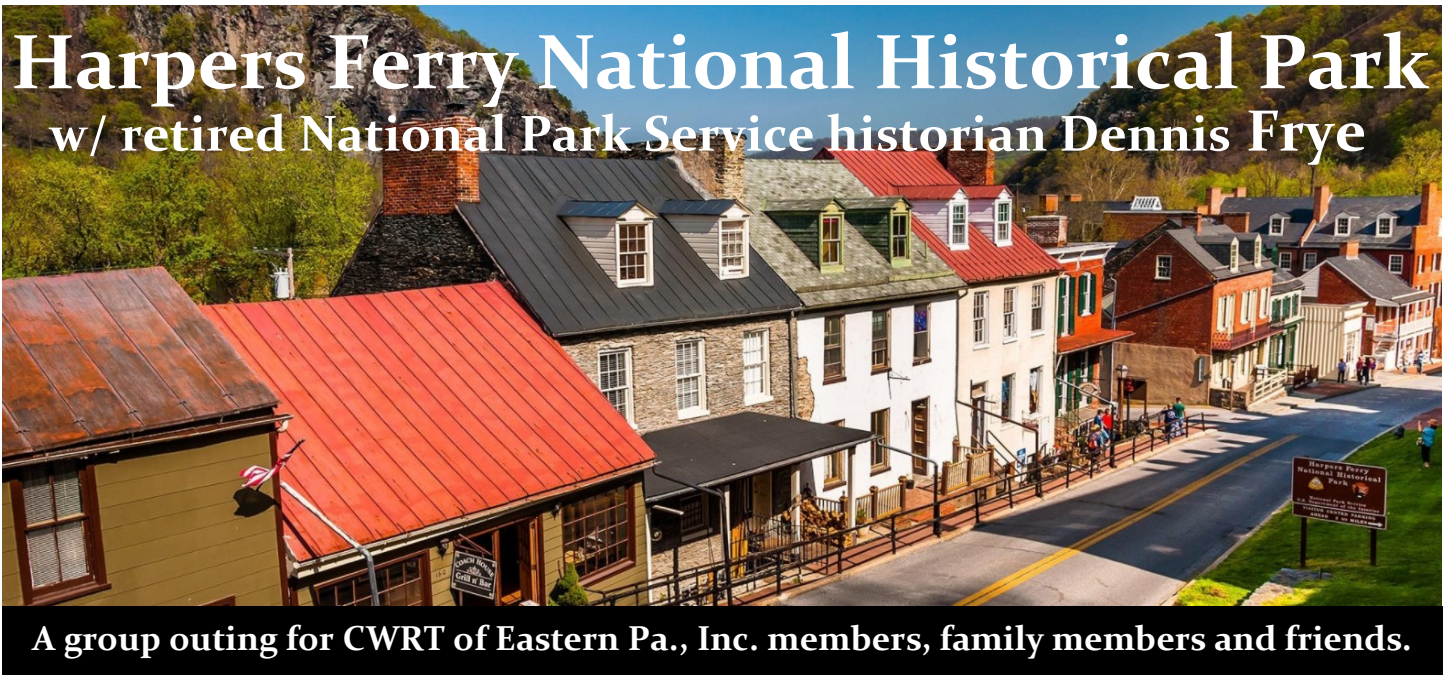
On March 9, USS Monitor arrived at Hampton Roads, Virginia, and immediately engaged CSS Merrimack, the latter of which had sunk USS Congress and USS Cumberland one day prior. While the encounter between the ironclads during the Battle of Hampton Roads was considered a draw, news of the battle quickly traveled. Soon thereafter, the world's then-greatest naval powers, Great Britain and France, ceased construction of wooden ships.

Monitor also served as a prototype for several other monitors built during the Civil War (60 in all); of these, 37 were commissioned. The original Monitor foundered and was lost during a gale off Cape Hatteras on December 31, 1862, along with 16 of her 62-man crew. In 1973, the wreck of the Monitor was located; in 2002, marine salvagers raised the ship's gun turret and other artifacts from the wreckage. These items are on display at The Mariners' Museum and Park in Newport News, Virginia.



John Ericsson was a Swedish-American inventor who immigrated to the US in 1839.

USS Monitor, which took just 98 days to construct, was built using a design that incorporated 40 patentable inventions. Some believe Ericsson to be one of the greatest inventors and most remarkable mechanical geniuses of the 19th century.



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

A group outing for CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. members, family members and friends.

Saturday, June 4, 2021

CARPPOOL - OR - DRIVE YOURSELF

Meet at the Center 100 Hotel parking lot, 7736 Adrienne Drive, Fogelsville, Pa. - OR - from another, agreed-upon location - OR - leave from your home.

Morning agenda: 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 September, 1862 • life in a border town, with the Potomac River serving as an international boundary between the U.S.A. and C.S.A.

Afternoon agenda: 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. (Make your check payable to "Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.") Complete itinerary details to follow.

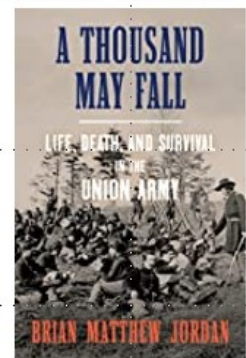
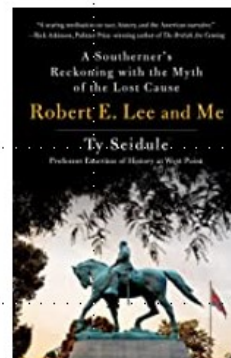
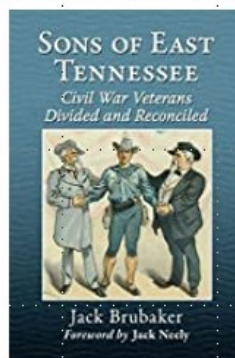
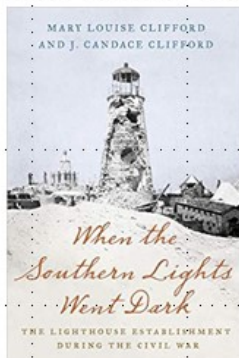
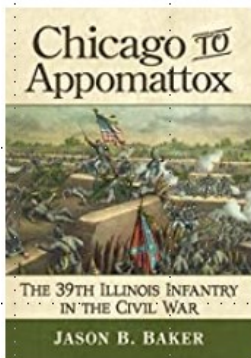
Questions? Contact Claire Kukielka (clkuk@ptd.net)



Dennis Frye is a former chief historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and recipient of the Distinguished Service Award—the Department of Interior’s highest honor. He is past president and co-founder of what is known today as the American Battlefield Trust and a founding member (and former executive director) of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites. Dennis also served as historian and producer for the 2003 movie, “God and Generals,” and played a cameo role in the film (as aide to Brig. Gen. Simon Goodell Griffin). He has authored 11 books and more than 100 articles about the Civil War.

January, 2022, Civil War Book Releases

We share, for informational purposes only, what is most certainly a partial listing of books currently earmarked for a January, 2022, release.



Chicago to Appomattox: The 39th Illinois Infantry in the Civil War by Jason B. Baker | Jan 2, 2022

When the Southern Lights Went Dark: The Lighthouse Establishment During the Civil War (paperback) – Jan 15, 2022

Sons of East Tennessee: Civil War Veterans Divided and Reconciled by Jack Brubaker | Jan 25, 2022

Robert E. Lee and Me: A Southerner's Reckoning with the Myth of the Lost Cause by Ty Seidule | Jan 26, 2021

A Thousand May Fall: Life, Death, and Survival in the Union Army by Brian Matthew Jordan | Jan 26, 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 presentation schedule for the remainder of Campaign 44:

Date	Title	Speaker
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

You can read each lecture synopsis at 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).

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."

<p>Select one:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am reenlisting for Campaign 44</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am a new recruit</p>	<p>Indicate your membership preference:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$25</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Full-time student: \$10</p>
<p>Name: _____ Email address: _____</p>	
<p>Mailing address:</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Phone number: _____</p>	
<p>I am including a donation (in addition to my membership dues) \$ _____.</p> <p><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></p>	
<p>(NEW RECRUITS): Please tell us about your American Civil War interests and experiences:</p> <p>How did you hear of the CWRT Round Table of Eastern Pa.?</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Are you a reenactor (Yes/No)? If yes, unit(s)?</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Use the space below to share name(s) and unit(s) of ancestor(s) who fought in the Civil War:</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>(NEW RECRUITS <u>AND</u> REENLISTERS):</p> <p>Do you have a particular interest in the Civil War? If so, please note in the space provided below:</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Are you willing to speak to groups on some aspect of the Civil War (Yes/No)?</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Are you interested in participating in Round Table activities (Yes/No)? If yes, please specify below:</p> <p><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):</p> <p>_____</p>	

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.