



February, 2022

Brigade Commander:

Barry Arnold

Regimental Commander:

Laura Kleinschmidt

Company Commander:

Claire Kukielka

Adjutant & Brigade Librarian:

Kay Bagenstose

Paymaster:

Jim Duffy

Membership Director:

Jeff Gates

Board Members:

Neil Coddington

Bill Frankenfield

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

email: cwrteasternpa@gmail.com

website: 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

So far, we've got 23 people signed up to take part in what is sure to be a memorable trip to Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (Saturday, June 4, 2022). There's still room for a few more participants. If you've never seen and heard our guide, Dennis Frye, in action, I suggest you hurry up and register before spaces fill up. It's going to be amazing!

You'll find details inside, on pages 2 and 6. Many thanks to Claire Kukielka for organizing this trip for us.

Of the 1,523 Medals of Honor awarded during the Civil War, 25 medals were awarded to African Americans. Of these, 12 were awarded to men who served in the U.S. Colored Troops, 3rd Division, XVIII Corps, who fought at the Battle of New Market Heights. You'll learn more about these men and their heroic actions at our February 1 meeting. See page 2 for more information. We hope to see you on the 1st.

Barry

For everyone's safety, I ask that all meeting attendees wear a mask while in the ballroom ... except for when you're eating or drinking, of course. Thanks.

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!** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Tim Talbott presents:

We Fight for Our Rights, Liberty, Justice, and Union: The Battle of New Market Heights

Tuesday, February 1, 2022, ~ 7:15 p.m. start



When members of the U.S. Colored Troops 3rd Division, XVIII Corps, stepped off to do battle on September 29, 1864, they stepped into history. During the engagement, 14 African American soldiers and two white officers performed heroic acts that earned them the Medal of Honor, the

U.S. government's highest and most prestigious military decoration.

Our guest speaker, Tim Talbott, will provide an overview of the battle and share stories of some of the men who fought in it.

Tim, who is the Director of Education, Interpretation, Visitor Services & Collections, Pamplin Historical Park & The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier in Petersburg, Va., also serves as President of the Battle of New Market Heights Memorial and Education Association and the Petersburg Civil War Roundtable. He has also authored articles that have been published in books and scholarly journals.

Sign up Today!

"We Fight for Our Rights, Liberty, Justice, and Union: The Battle of New Market Heights"
(Tues., February 1, 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:

Friday, January 28, 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!

January Book Raffle Winners



(l-r): Jeffrey Gates, David Hohe, John Maly, Sherri Miller, Diane French

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

More Details

Group Trip To Harpers Ferry Historical National Park
Saturday, June 4, 2022

Carpool departure time (est.):
Between 6:00 and 6:30 am;
meet at the Center 100 Hotel,
(formerly Holiday Inn),
7736 Adrienne Drive, Breinigsville

Muster location at Harpers Ferry: We will pick a time and place for carpoolers—and those who will strike out on their own—to meet inside the park.

Claire Kukielka will reach out to all registrants to learn if they will carpool (drive or ride) or go it alone AND collect cell phone numbers.

Park entry fee (per car): \$20

Estimated lecture fee

(per person): \$20

NOTE: The per-person lecture fee will be set once we have a final headcount.

Visit page 5 for more information



Civil War Community News:

cwrteasternpa.org/news

Jan 19: Ken Burns speaks out about proposed digital data center near Manassas

Jan 19: Petersburg National Battlefield preparing for the preservation of two smoke houses

Jan 12: Gettysburg (the town) to dedicate Thaddeus Stevens statue on April 2

Jan 1: Second time capsule found at base of Lee's statue

Dec 28: Conservators find books, coins, and bullets in Virginia time capsule

Dec 24: A Christmas message from the American Battlefield Trust

Brigade News:

cwrteasternpa.org/brigade-news

Jan 6: January 4, 2021, lecture summary and photos

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 individuals have renewed their memberships for Campaign 44: Gary Schnell, Alan Lowcher and William K. Malkames. Thank you!

As incentive to recruit **new members** for our CWRT, we're offering three framed prints 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.

"Erin for Glory" (14 ½" x 12"). A Gettysburg postal stamp is displayed below the print.

"Gettysburg" (14 ½" x 12"). A Gettysburg postal stamp is displayed below the 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, CWRT of Eastern Pa. member donations have increased to \$1,176. Our latest donors include Neil and Kathy Coddington and Paul Bartlett. Thanks to these donors—and everyone else who has made a donation during Campaign 44.

Test Your Knowledge

African Americans in Civil War History

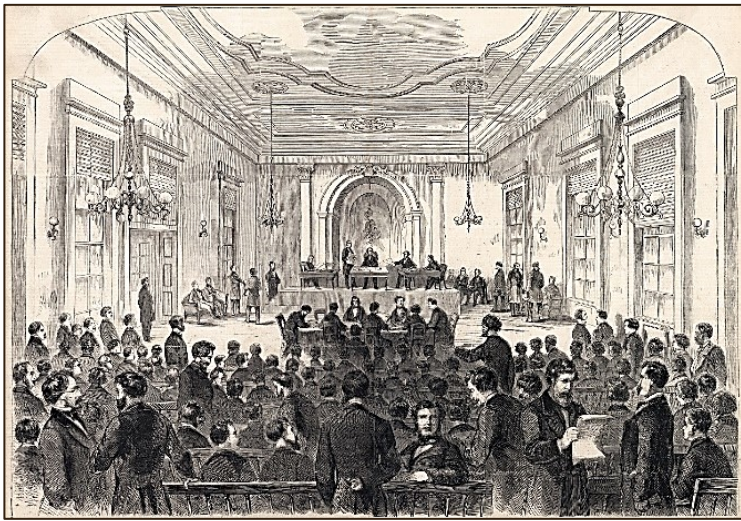
- How many African Americans served in the Union Army and Navy?
- Which slave commandeered a Confederate transport ship in Charleston Harbor and sailed it to Union lines?
- In what key battle did a division, made up entirely of African Americans, secure a decisive victory by cutting off the retreat of a Confederate army?

For the answers to these and other related questions, visit the American Battlefield Trust website.

www.battlefields.org/learn/quizzes/african-americans-civil-war-history

February 4, 1861

Too Little Too Late: The Washington Peace Conference of 1861



Leading politicians from 14 free and seven slave-holding states met in a Washington D.C. concert hall for the opening of a bipartisan, last-ditch attempt to avoid the secession of the eight remaining slave states by reaching a compromise that would protect slavery. The group (131 in all) included six former cabinet members, 19 ex-governors, 14 former senators, 50 former representatives, and 12 state supreme court justices. Former U.S. president, John Tyler, led the proceedings. (In

death, the Confederacy would view Tyler a founding father; the U.S., a traitor.)

The Peace Conference of 1861, or the “Old Gentlemen’s Convention,” as the *New York Herald* dubbed it, ultimately failed, ending on February 27, after the U.S. Senate overwhelmingly defeated the proposed constitutional amendment, and the U.S. House refused to even entertain the amendment. (A previously proposed amendment had been rejected by the Senate on January 16).

Meanwhile, in Montgomery, Alabama, representatives from six of the seven southern states that had seceded from the U.S. met on February 4 to establish a unified government, which they called the Confederate States of America. Two key issues were at the heart of the decision to secede—the institution of slavery and states’ rights—although other factors, like taxation, were also considered.

More than 150 years later, the debate over the cause for secession remains alive and well, as does the politically motivated conspiracy theory, like this one, which dates back to 1860 and went something like this: The election of Abraham Lincoln was an act of war that would lead to other, tragic actions, such as armies that would come to seize slaves and force white women to marry black men!

February 3, 1865

A Prelude to Peace: The Hampton Roads Conference

On the advice of C.S.A. Vice President Stephens and in consideration of a progressively worsening situation for the Confederates, President Davis sent Stephens, Senator Hunter and Assistant Secretary of War Campbell to meet with U.S.A. President Abraham Lincoln and Secretary of State Seward to discuss the possibility of negotiating an end to the American Civil War. The Conference ended after only four hours. Confederate officials were unauthorized to accept any settlement other than Southern independence. And Lincoln was insistent that the laying down of Confederate arms and immediate reunification would need to be authorized before anything else could be discussed, including the possibility of compensation emancipation.



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, 2022

CARPOOL - OR - DRIVE YOURSELF

Tour guide: Dennis Frye, former chief historian, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

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

(Make your check payable to "Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.")

★ **Other important details:**

Shuttle buses may be available to us, at least some of the time. The Park also offers some wheelchairs on a first-come, first-serve basis.

You will **not** need to provide an immunization record, but all visitors **will be required** to wear a mask in all National Park Services buildings, crowded outdoor spaces, and in all forms of enclosed, public transportation.

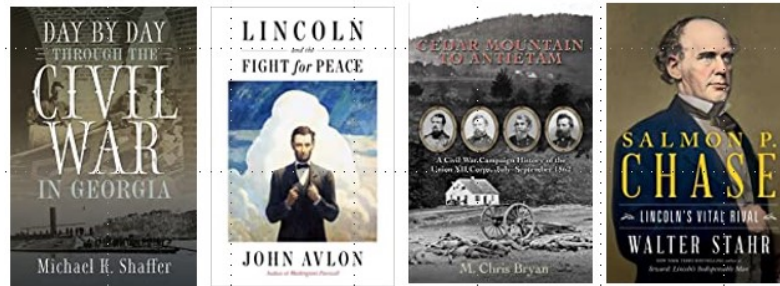
It looks like we'll brown-bag it for lunch. Don't forget to pack bottled or canned beverages for your personal consumption during the day. **NOTE:** The consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or the possession of an open container of alcoholic beverage is prohibited in the park.

Carpool departure time: The current estimated departure is **no later than 4:30 p.m.** so those driving back the same day can at least get close to home before dark.

QUESTIONS? Contact Claire Kukiela (clkuk@ptd.net)

February, 2022, Civil War Book Releases

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



“Day by Day through the Civil War in Georgia,” by Michael K. Shaffer | Feb 1, 2022

“Lincoln and the Fight for Peace,” by John Avlon | Feb 15, 2022

“Cedar Mountain to Antietam: A Civil War Campaign History of the Union XII Corps, July – September 1862,” by M. Chris Bryan | Feb 18, 2022

“Salmon P. Chase: Lincoln's Vital Rival,” by Walter Stahr | Feb 22, 2022

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
March 1	Myths and Meanings of the Civil War	Randall Miller
April 5	His Record Lives: William P. Randall 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."

Select one:

☐ I am reenlisting for Campaign 44
☐ I am a new recruit

Indicate your membership preference:

☐ Individual: \$25
☐ 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 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.**