

May, 2022

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Laura Kleinschmidt

Company Commander:

Kay Bagenstose

Adjutant & Brigade Librarian:

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Jim Duffy

Membership Director:

Jeff Gates

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Neil Coddington

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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

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

This newsletter offers some great Civil War stories—one that, in its time, made front-page news and created a national sensation for years afterwards—and one that was rarely spoken of, even while the battles were raging. The latter story, which tells of the vital contributions made by vivandieres, is the topic for our May 3rd meeting. You'll find a teaser on page 2—just enough information to pique your curiosity and get you to come out and join us for the lecture and maybe for dinner, too.

If you're still on the fence, know that it's not too late to sign up for the group day trip to Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in June. Because our guide is none other than retired National Park Service historian and founder of the modern Civil War battlefield preservation movement, Dennis Frye, the trip will be an incredible experience. And, you never know—this may be the last opportunity you'll ever have to be held spellbound by Frye's masterful storytelling skill and extensive Harpers Ferry battlefield knowledge. Visit page 5 for more.

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 25-Year Club.

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

Jane Peters Estes presents:

Vivandieres: The Forgotten Women of the Civil War

Tuesday, May 3, 2022, ~ 7:15 PM start



Once, while in the midst of a hotly contested Civil War battle, a veteran officer was surprised to see a woman on the battlefield—wearing a uniform, no less.

Actually, a surprising number of women risked the dangers of war to provide essential

medical care to wounded soldiers. How many will never be known as, officially, their service went mostly unrecognized, although a few were awarded with military honors. Vivandieres (pronounced **vi-van-di-ears**) were often the daughters of officers or the wives of non-commissioned officers. And although they did not fight in battles (there were exceptions, however), they were often armed.

Jane Peters Estes has written on many Victorian era and American Civil War subjects of personal interest, including *Civil War Nurses*, *Vivandieres*, and *The Battle of Gettysburg: Where Were the Women?* Her contributions to history have been honored by the Grand Army Republic Museum & Library, Philadelphia; the Union League of Philadelphia; and American Legion Post 405, Philadelphia.

SIGN UP TODAY

to attend “Vivandieres: The Forgotten Women of the Civil War.”

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

Delta Hotel by Marriot • 7736 Adrienne Drive • Breinigsville (formerly Holiday Inn)

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

Deadline to reserve a spot for dinner:

Friday, April 29, by/before 12:00 p.m.

To register, contact Jim Duffy (duffysocwk@aol.com) or 610-253-454 (email preferred).

Walk-in lecture reservations are NOT required!

April Book Raffle Winners



Front Row: Sherri Miller
Back Row (l-r): Bill Frankenfield, Laura Kleinschmidt Marie Maly, William Hildebrant

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

The Time to Purchase Campaign 44 Print Raffle Tickets is Coming to a Close!

The winning raffle tickets for the Campaign 44 print raffle will be drawn at the June 7, 2022, CWRT of Eastern Pa. meeting. You have until then to purchase tickets. **The cost for a booklet of 10 tickets is \$5.** You’ll find a listing of print raffle prizes on page 6. As always, proceeds benefit preservation efforts.

You will be able to purchase tickets at both the May and June meetings or by mail. Mail checks made payable to “CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc.” to P.O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105. **NOTE:** The deadline to receive your check (via USPS) for print raffle tickets is May 31, 2022.



Civil War Community News:

cwrteasternpa.org/news

Apr 12: Company A Civil War Cartoons

Apr 7: David Wills House Reopens on Apr. 23rd

Mar 24: Pamplin Park Remembers the Breakthrough Battle

Mar 24: Head-turning History from the American Battlefield Trust

Preservation:

www.cwrteasternpa.org/preservation

May 21: Saving Todd's Tavern with Central Virginia Battlefield Trust

By the Numbers

Civil War Roundtable of Eastern Pa.

REENLISTMENTS (Jeff Gates)

Since our last newsletter, Ron Hill has joined as a member, and the following have renewed their memberships for Campaign 44: Lynn Glancy, Bill Duffy, and William Hildebrant. 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 \$1,900. Thanks to Paul Bartlett, Lynn Glancy, David Hohe, Gerald Sherwin, and Kay Basenstose for their most recent donations and everyone else who has made a donation(s) during Campaign 44.



May 13, 1862

A Slave Captures a Confederate Ship and Sails to Freedom

After the captain and his two, white officers had disembarked the *CSS Planter* for the evening, 23-year-old Robert Smalls and a crew of his seven fellow slaves slipped the cotton steamer off the dock, picked up multiple family members at a rendezvous point, then slowly navigated through the harbor. (The *Planter* was a privately owned ship on loan to the Confederates.) Smalls donned the captain's wide-brimmed hat to help to hide his face and responded with the proper coded

signals at two checkpoints and other defense positions. Once on the open sea and outside of Confederate waters, his crew raised a white flag and surrendered to the blockading Union fleet.

Following the war, Smalls served as a first-generation black politician, serving in the South Carolina assembly and senate. He also served five, consecutive terms in the House of Representatives. His political career ended when Reconstruction was rolled back and blacks were stripped of their voting rights.

May 24, 1861

The Civil War's First Union Death



Looking across the river from the second story of the White House, President Lincoln could see a massive Confederate flag flying above an Alexandria inn called the Marshall House. Although Virginia voters had ratified the decision to secede from the Union just one day earlier, the flag had been visible for weeks.

As lore has it, 24-year-old Colonel Elmer Ellsworth, who had clerked in Lincoln's law office after having attended law school, offered to take a few of his "First Fire Zouaves" across the river to retrieve the flag. (Officially, the Zouaves were the

11th New York Volunteer Regiment, a unit comprised of mostly volunteer firemen.)

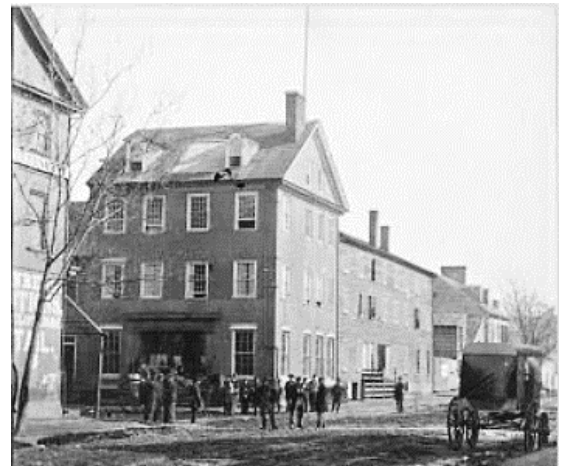
As James Barber, National Portrait Gallery historian and curator, tells the story, the "radical secessionist" and innkeeper, James W. Jackson, shot the unarmed Ellsworth in the chest with a double-barreled shotgun as Ellsworth was coming down the inn's stairs with the retrieved flag in his hands. Unfortunately for Jackson, Ellsworth's companion, Private Francis Brownell, was armed, took quick aim, shot (and then bayoneted) Jackson.

Ellsworth's death became headline news and made him a martyr figure for the North. Locally, a scavenger hunt for war souvenirs quickly ensued—pieces of the flag, the flagstaff, and bits of blood-stained flooring were removed from the premises. Afterwards, Northerners began naming their children after Ellsworth, a song was written to honor his heroism, and Civil War, and post-Civil War regiments were named "Ellsworth's Avengers" in his honor.

Upon hearing of the incident, Lincoln exclaimed, "My boy! My boy! Was it necessary this sacrifice should be made?" He directed that his young friend's body be brought to Washington to lie in state in the East Room of the White House before being sent home for burial.

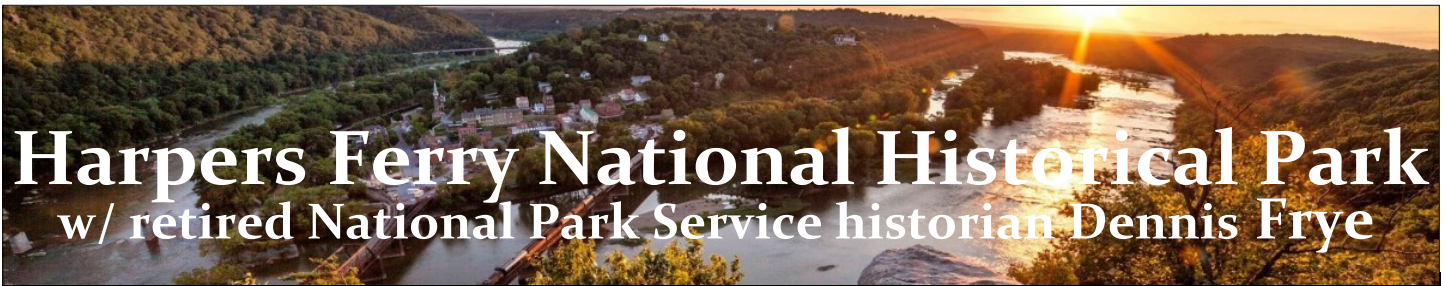
For his own part, Ellsworth seemed content to meet his fate; the day before his death, he had posted a letter to his parents from Camp Lincoln in Washington D.C.:

"... my dear parents, it may be my lot to be injured in some manner. Whatever may happen, cherish the consolation that I was engaged in the performance of a sacred duty and, tonight, thinking over the probabilities of tomorrow and the occurrences of the past, I am perfectly content to accept whatever my fortune may be, confident that He who noteth even the fall of the sparrow would have some purpose even in the fate of one like me. ..."



Above: The Marshall House, site of the killing of Colonel Elmer Ellsworth. Just behind the chimney, you can see the bottom portion of the 30-foot flagstaff.

The Sun is Setting on Your Chance to Participate in a Once-in-a-Lifetime Experience



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

Saturday, June 4, 2022 – 6AM – 4:30 PM (times approximate)

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

Join us for the rare opportunity of spending a day under the tutelage of retired NPS historian and founder of the modern Civil War battlefield preservation movement, Dennis Frye. You'll find details about the trip, including how to sign up, here: www.cwrteasternpa.org/calendar-1.

★ ★ ★

May 5, 1863

Former Ohio Congressman Dies Proving a Point



On this date, Ohio congressman and leader of the Copperhead anti-war faction Clement Vallandigham is arrested for protests to “Lincoln’s War.” The charges brought forth centered on a speech he had made that, among other things, declared the “wicked, cruel, and unnecessary war” was being waged ... for the purpose of “crushing out liberty and erecting despotism” and “... the freedom of the blacks and the enslavement of whites.” Lincoln, hoping to avoid creating a martyr for the Copperhead cause, ordered Vallandigham to be sent through enemy lines and deposited in the Confederate States of America.

In 1864, while in Canada, he became the leader of the Sons of Liberty, conspiring with Confederate agents to form a northwestern Confederacy consisting of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois by overthrowing these states’ governments. He later crossed (illegally) into the U.S. and attended the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, where his presence was met with both applause and hisses.

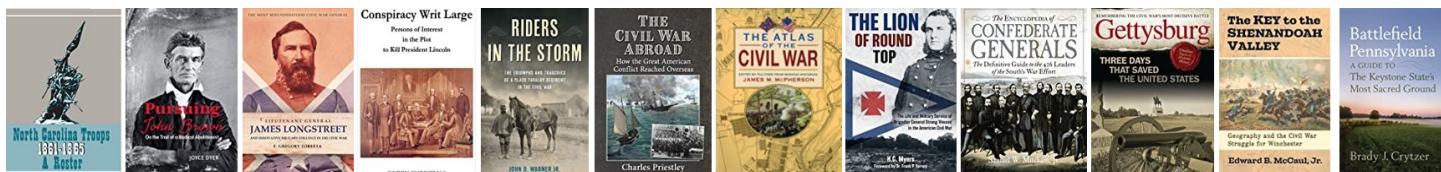
Later that year, he lost his bid for governor of Ohio after winning the nomination in absentia.

Post-war, Vallandigham returned to Ohio and, after making unsuccessful bids for the senate and house, returned to private practice.

In 1871, while serving as a defense lawyer, he attempted to demonstrate how the alleged victim of a so-called murder had not been shot by his client. Instead, Vallandigham insisted, he had shot himself. To demonstrate, Vallandigham took what he thought to be an unloaded pistol and stuffed it into his pants pocket. He then assumed a kneeling position to mimic the actions of the allegedly murdered man and, while trying to wrest the weapon from his pants, the gun, which was loaded, went off, and the bullet lodged into his stomach. Vallandigham died, but his demonstration had won the day: His client, the defendant, was later acquitted and released from custody.

May, 2022, Civil War Book Releases

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



“North Carolina Troops 1861-1865: A Roster, Volume 21: Militia and Home Guard,”
by Matthew Brown and Michael Coffey | May 1, 2022

“Pursuing John Brown: On the Trail of a Radical Abolitionist (Ohio History and Culture),”
by Joyce Dyer | May 1, 2022 (*originally scheduled for an October 1, 2021, release*)

“Lieutenant General James Longstreet: Innovative Military Strategist: The Most Misunderstood Civil War General,” by F. Gregory Toretta | May 4, 2022

“Conspiracy Writ Large: Persons of Interest in the Plot to Kill President Lincoln,”
by Gerry Christmas | May 4, 2022

“Riders in the Storm: The Triumphs and Tragedies of a Black Cavalry Regiment in the
Civil War,” by John D. Warner Jr. | May 15, 2022 (*originally scheduled for an April, 2022, release*)

The Civil War Abroad: How the Great American Conflict Reached Overseas,”
by Charles Priestley | May 15, 2022

“The Atlas of the Civil War,” by James McPherson (paperback) | May 17, 2022

“The Lion of Round Top: The Life and Military Service of Brigadier General Strong Vincent
in the American Civil War,” by Hans G. Myers and Dr Frank P. Varney | May 18, 2022

“The Encyclopedia of Confederate Generals: The Definitive Guide to the 426 Leaders of the
South's War Effort,” by Samuel W. Mitcham Jr. | May 24, 2022

“Gettysburg: Three Days That Saved the United States: Remembering the Civil War's Most
Decisive Battle - Timelines, Facts, Rare Historic Photos, Real Stories, and More,” by
Ben Nussbaum | May 24, 2022

“The Key to the Shenandoah Valley: Geography and the Civil War Struggle for Winchester,”
by Edward B. McCaul Jr. | May 29, 2022

“Battlefield Pennsylvania: A Guide to the Keystone State's Most Sacred Ground,” by
Brady J. Crytzer | May 31, 2022

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Upcoming Campaign 44 Presentations and Field Trips

Our lecture lineup of speakers offers multiple chances for greater understanding of the American Civil War; these presentations are sure to leave you feeling inspired. Our planned field trips offer the chance for greater learning, understanding and camaraderie. You can read lecture synopses at: www.cwrteasternpa.org/calendar-1.

June 4 Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (group outing)

Dennis Frye

June 7 Blackberry Raid during Gettysburg Campaign

Hampton Newsome

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.

NOTE: The drawing for Campaign 44 print raffle prizes will be held at the Tuesday, June 7, meeting. You will have an opportunity to purchase tickets prior to the drawing date.

NOTE: All payments by check (sent via U.S. Mail) must be received by May 31.



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: <input type="checkbox"/> I am reenlisting for Campaign 44 <input type="checkbox"/> I am a new recruit</p>	<p>Indicate your membership preference: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time student: \$10</p>
<p>Name: _____ Email address: _____</p>	
<p>Mailing address: _____ _____</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>Are you a reenactor (Yes/No)? If yes, unit(s)? _____</p>	
<p>Use the space below to share name(s) and unit(s) of ancestor(s) who fought in the Civil War: _____</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>Are you willing to speak to groups on some aspect of the Civil War (Yes/No)?</p>	
<p>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):</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.**