



January, 2023

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Laura Kleinschmidt

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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

The new year is a fresh start on the calendar, full of hope and potential. We've got six more Campaign 45 dinner meetings and lectures lined up, and the variety of lecture topics offer something for just about everyone. See page 4 for a listing and the website for details.

Our January guest speaker, Eric Buckland, has spent the last 15 years researching Mosby and is currently regarded as one of the two "most knowledgeable" historians when it comes to Mosby and his battalion. You'll find details about our January 3 lecture and dinner meeting on page 2.

Just a reminder that our upcoming January 3 meeting is also your last chance to purchase raffle tickets for the "Ranger Mosby" print. The unexpected and generous donation of this print provides us with a wonderful opportunity to generate additional funds for Civil War preservation and conservation efforts. In the resale market, numbered and signed Don Troiani prints have sold for as high as \$700!! See page 5 for more details.

I hope you'll be able to come out and join us on the 3rd. In the meantime, let me be the first to wish you all a Happy New Year!

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 member of the Color Bearer Society, and a member of ABT's 25-Year Club.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **Our 45th Campaign Year!** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Eric Buckland presents:**"A Fiery Fall: Mosby in the Shenandoah"**

Tuesday, January 3, 2023



Known as the "Gray Ghost," Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby and his Rangers terrorized Federal units in northern Virginia from late 1862 until the end of the war. The group was perhaps most famous for its

daring and ability to blend into the surrounding civilian population until danger from the enemy units had passed. The presentation will include the Berryville Wagon Train Raid, the fight at Morgan's Lane, and The Greenback Raid as well as the execution of six Rangers in Front Royal, Va. and subsequent Death Lottery conducted by the Rangers.

Author and historian Eric Buckland is a military veteran with 22 years of service. He has written several books about the lives of some of the men who rode with the 43rd Battalion Virginia Cavalry (better known as Mosby's Rangers) and has given over 100 presentations based on stories taken from his books and published magazine articles. He is also the author of two videos that can be found in the C-SPAN Video Library. Eric is currently in his third term as President of The Stuart-Mosby Historical Society.

SIGN UP TODAY ...

to attend "A Fiery Fall: Mosby in the Shenandoah."

Dinner & lecture fee: \$30 ★ Lecture-only fee: \$5

As always, 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, December 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 Meeting Wrap-up

★ Twenty-five people attended the December dinner meeting; another 11 joined the group for the lecture. Thanks, all, for coming out on a chilly, foggy, rainy evening.

★ Thanks to all who purchased tickets for our December book raffle, which raised \$127. Cumulative Campaign 45 earnings for this raffle are now at \$390!!

★ Thanks to Kay Bagenstose and Kim Jacobs for preservation donations made during our December meeting.

**December book raffle winners:**

I-r: Terri Monroe, Monica Stevens, Connie Taglieber, Kim Frankenfield, Chuck Dzielawa

NOTE: Have you noticed? This campaign year, we've increased the number of books in each month's raffle: More books means more chances to win!

**December's speaker, Tom Fontana**

shared a behind-the-scenes look at the man behind the man that we all

know as President Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Fontana will donate the \$50 honorarium presented by the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. to the American Battlefield Trust.

January 8, 1861**The Last Southern Member of Buchanan's Cabinet Resigns**

During the Civil War, Jacob Thompson, a former U.S. Congressman, chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, and U.S. Secretary of the Interior, served as a Confederate soldier, one-term state legislator and, head of the controversial Commission to Canada—one of several operations of the Confederate Secret Service. By 1865, Thompson had become a hunted man, pursued by the government he once served loyally and claimed to have loved. Following the war, he would become a target of U.S. government propaganda and lived abroad until 1869, when amnesty allowed him to return to the U.S.

While serving as the sitting Secretary of the Interior for the United States, Jacob Thompson was named a secession commissioner to North Carolina by Mississippi governor, John J. Pettus and had begun to vigorously take up these duties while still serving the as a U.S. Cabinet member. He resigned his Cabinet post on January 8, 1861, following the call for fortification of Fort Sumter and Thompson's anticipation that Mississippi would secede the following day. In his resignation letter, Thompson wrote, "It is with extreme regret that I have just learned that additional troops have been ordered to Charleston. ... Under these circumstances I feel myself bound to resign my commission, as one of your constitutional advisers, into your hands."

Despite his age (61) and a lack of military experience, he volunteered and accepted a commission as a lieutenant colonel serving as aide-de-camp to Gen. Pierre Beauregard at the Battle of Shiloh and then inspector general for Lieut. General John C. Pemberton during the Vicksburg Campaign. He is also thought to have been the inspiration for the nickname "The Jake Thompson Guards" (the 19th Mississippi Infantry), a unit raised on June 1, 1861. In 1864, President Jefferson Davis approached Thompson with a request to lead a delegation in Canada to organize many anti-Union plots. By 1865, Thompson had become a hunted man, with Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton leading the charge.

With facts not in evidence, Thompson was implicated as part of the conspiracy of assassinate Abraham Lincoln. Stanton had also discovered vast sums of money in Canadian bank accounts in Thompson's name—money he believed had been used to fund several failed plots, including one to free Confederate prisoners of war on Johnson's Island (Ohio), arranging the purchase of a steamer with the intention of arming it to harass shipping in the Great Lake, setting up negotiations to create a Northwestern Confederacy, and planning the burning of New York City in 1864 in retaliation for Sheridan's and Sherman's scorched-earth tactics in the South. But Thompson was never brought to trial: It seems that once those responsible for Lincoln's death were hunted down, the nation was ready to begin moving on. In the end, no Confederate leaders were punished beyond the passing of a law that made them ineligible to hold political office.



Civil War Community News: www.cwrteasternpa.org/news

December 16: Adams County H.S. to open new museum on April 15/16

November 30: Lecture and book-signing event: “From Binghamton to the Battlefield: The Civil War Letters of Rollin B. Truesdell,” hosted by Susquehanna County Historical Society.

November 29: Gettysburg Cannonball is Beautifully Engraved

November 23: Hi-tech Research Pinpoints Where Lincoln Stood While Delivering His Gettysburg Address

November 18: Gettysburg's Taneytown Road Entrance to Museum and Visitor Center to Close

Civil War Preservation News: www.cwrteasternpa.org/preservation

November 29: Help Save 56 Acres of Second Fredericksburg Battlefield

November 23: Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association Purchases Land for NMP

November 23: Civil War Battlefield Acreage In Miss., Va., and W.V. to be Protected

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Join Us!

Remaining Campaign 45 Presentations

Our lineup of speakers for Campaign 45 offers chances for greater understanding of the American Civil War; these presentations are sure to leave you feeling inspired.

Date	Title	Speaker
Feb 7	An Evening with Devil Dan, American Scoundrel, Sickles the Incredible	“Maj. Gen. Daniel Sickles”
Mar 7	The History of the Grand Army of the Republic	Andy Waskie
Apr 4	The Victorian Historian: Victorian Life in the 1860s	Adam Shefts
May 2	(Female) Nurses of Gettysburg at the Spangler Farm	Ron Kirkwood
June 6	Mourning Customs and History	Gretchen and James Kennedy

You’ll find preliminary lecture synopses at www.cwrteasterpa.org/calendar-1 and more expansive synopses in the newsletter that precedes each lecture.

NOTE: Speaker conflicts can cause presentations/presenters or presentation dates to change.

Campaign 45 Print Raffle Preservation Fundraiser

You can purchase tickets at all Round Table meetings OR send a 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. If you mail your payment, your stubs will be returned to you by return mail.

- ★ Framed print (38" x 29 ½") of Gettysburg Battlefield that was addressed to General Meade and signed by Union generals
- ★ Framed print (27 ½" x 24") of Abraham Lincoln
- ★ Framed (24 ½" x 18 ½") front page of *NY Tribune*, Wed., Apr. 19, 1865 (incl. certification paper)
- ★ Small framed letter from D.S. Roth to Peter S. Hamilton dated 11/16/1864 (11" x 9")
- ★ Union General Service Button found at Harper's Ferry with a picture of a cannon on Bolivar Heights (donated by Barry Arnold)
- ★ Tie with Confederate flag
- ★ 2-volume set: Lincoln's Speeches and Writings (Vol 1: 1832-1858; Vol 2: 1859-1865)
- ★ "The Campaign of Chancellorsville: A Strategic and Tactical Study" John Bigelow Jr. (1910 edition)
- ★ "Antietam - The Photographic Legacy of America's Bloodiest Day," by William A Frassanito
- ★ "The Civil War Dictionary" - signed by Mark M. Boatner III (1959 edition)
- ★ 2-volume set - "Abraham Lincoln - The Prairie Years" by Carl Sandberg (1929 edition)
- ★ 4-volume set - "Abraham Lincoln - The War Years" by Carl Sandberg (1939 edition)
- ★ 2-volume set - "Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant" (1885 edition)
- ★ 2-volume set "Lincoln Finds a General: A Military Study of the Civil War;" first edition by Kenneth P. Williams
- ★ Framed print (size) of Ben Crippen, 143rd PVI, shaking his fist at Confederates of the first day at Gettysburg
- ★ 2-volume set = "Stonewall Jackson" by Lenior Chambers (Vol 1: The Legend and the Man to the Valley; Vol 2: Seven Days to the Last March) (1956 edition)
- ★ 3-volume set - "Lee's Lieutenants" by Douglas Southall (Vol 1: Manassas to Malvern Hill - 1942 edition); Vol 2: Cedar Mountain to Chancellorsville - 1943 edition; Vol 3: Gettysburg to Appomattox - 1944 edition

LAST CHANCE ...

to Enter to Win the "Ranger Mosby" Raffle to Benefit Preservation

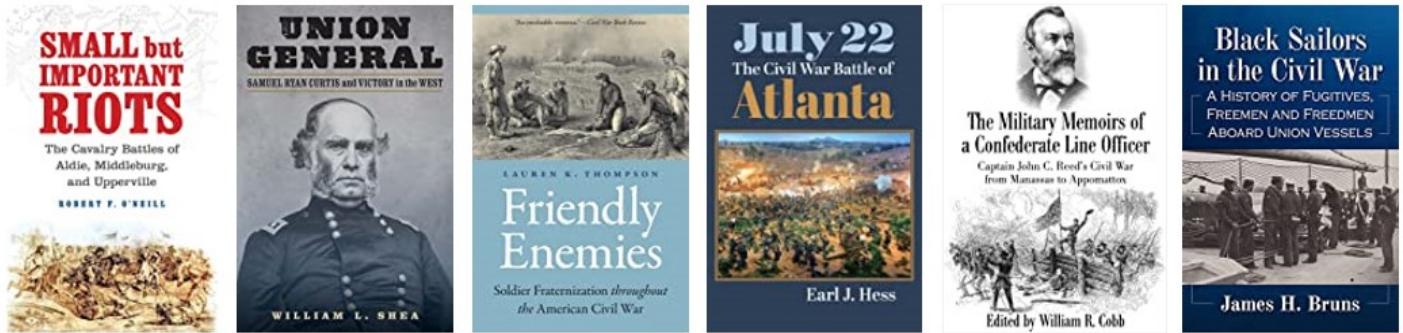


In conjunction with our January 3, 2023, meeting, and presentation, Round Table member Alan Lowcher has generously donated a print entitled "Ranger Mosby," rendered by artist Don Troiani, a painter well known for his accurate historical and military paintings. Raffle tickets can be purchased at our December and January meetings (10 tickets were sold at our November meeting) - **OR** - you can send a check to cover the number of tickets you wish to purchase to: CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc., P. O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105. (**Payments by mail must be received prior to the January 3 meeting.**) Tickets are

at priced at \$5 each. **NOTE:** *The print is signed and numbered but does not come with a certificate of authenticity.*

January, 2023, Civil War Book Releases

We share, for informational purposes only, what is most certainly a partial listing of books currently earmarked for a January 2023, release.



Small but Important Riots: The Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville by Robert F. O'Neill | Jan 1, 2023

Union General: Samuel Ryan Curtis and Victory in the West by William L. Shea | Jan 1, 2023

Friendly Enemies: Soldier Fraternization throughout the American Civil War by Lauren K. Thompson | Jan 1, 2023

July 22: The Civil War Battle of Atlanta by Earl J. Hess | Jan 6, 2023

The Military Memoirs of a Confederate Line Officer: Captain John C. Reed's Civil War from Manassas to Appomattox by William R. Cobb | Jan 13, 2023 (*Release date rescheduled – AGAIN!*)

Black Sailors in the Civil War: A History of Fugitives, Freeman and Freedmen Aboard Union Vessels by James H. Bruns | Jan 31, 2023

Watch Remembrance Day (Cemetery Rededication), November 9, 2022 Gettysburg Military National Park

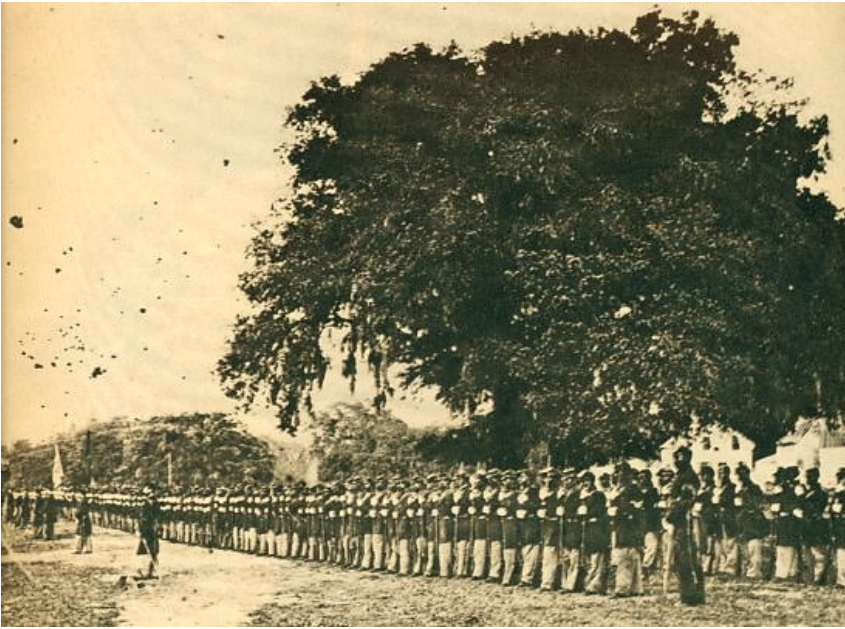


Dr. Alan Guelzo, historian and author of "Gettysburg: The Last Invasion" and multiple other Civil War-themed books, was the keynote speaker at the November 9, 2022, rededication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery. You can watch his address on YouTube: youtu.be/tkTc2X3Nems (22 minutes)

NOTE: A 30-second ad, which you can opt to skip after five seconds of play time, will precede the presentation.

January 1, 1863

When New Year's Day Meant Freedom



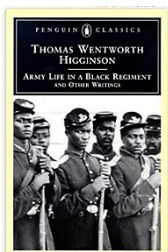
(left) First South Carolina Volunteers hear the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation near Beaufort, South Carolina, January 1, 1863

When the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect, African American soldiers in the Union Army had already been fighting the Confederacy along the South Carolina coast for nearly a year. On January 1, these soldiers assembled with their families to celebrate. Their commander, Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, had been a Unitarian minister and abolitionist before the war who, together with black and

white Boston residents, had stormed into the city to free the black fugitive slaves who thought they had reached a city where their liberty would be protected. He had also been an active participant in the Underground Railroad and was part of a group that supplied material aid to John Brown just before his ill-fated raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859. In his diary, Higginson recorded the scene that occurred following the reading of the Proclamation:

... Then followed an incident so simple, so touching, so utterly unexpected and startling that I can scarcely believe it on recalling, though it gave the keynote to the whole day. The very moment the speaker had ceased, and just as I took and waved the flag, which now for the first time meant anything to these poor people, there suddenly arose, close beside the platform, a strong male voice (but rather cracked and elderly), into which two women's voices instantly blended, singing, as if by an impulse that could no more be repressed than the morning note of a song sparrow, the song, "My Country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing! ..."

Once the Civil War began, Higginson joined the U.S. Army, commissioned as a Colonel, and specifically requested that he be assigned to a black regiment. (Higginson was a white man.) He received his opportunity in 1862 when he was sent to the Sea Islands off the coast of South Carolina, which was by then Union-held territory. This occupation freed thousands of enslaved people, and some of these former slaves were then trained by Higginson and other officers to become soldiers in that occupying army.



Higginson's diary recorded this and other events and eventually became the basis for his best-selling book, "Army Life in A Black Regiment, and Other Writings." Originally published in 1870, it is still available for purchase (last published by Penguin in 1997). Due to the historical importance of the subject matter, you can also read the book online (for free) from Project Guttenberg at

www.gutenberg.org/files/6764/6764-h/6764-h.htm.

Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.

CAMPAIGN 45 MEMBERSHIP FORM (2022-2023)

Please complete the form below and mail it along with your Campaign 45 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 45 <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>(Please print clearly, ESPECIALLY your email address!!)</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Mailing address:</p> <p>Email address: Phone number:</p>	
<p>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, e.g., supporting the vital work of museums and saving battlefield acreage from developers.</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)/unit(s) of ancestor(s) who fought in the Civil War:</p>	
<p>(NEW RECRUITS <u>AND</u> REENLISTERS): Do you have a particular interest in the Civil War? If yes, please elaborate 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? 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 (note below):</p>	
<p><i>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. IMPORTANT NOTE: The CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. will NEVER share your contact information unless it has obtained your permission in advance to do so.</i></p>	

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 Your membership dues are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.**