



March, 2023

Brigade Commander:

Barry Arnold

Regimental Commander:

Laura Kleinschmidt

Adjutant & Company

Commander:

Claire Kukielka

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

website: www.cwrteasternpa.org

email: malymc@ptd.net

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

More good news from the American Battlefield Trust (ABT). In consideration of our loyal and generous support of battlefield preservation efforts, the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. will remain among ABT a 25-year member in good standing. Receiving this accolade couldn't have happened without people like you; thanks once again for your continuing support.

We've got what I think will be another great lecture coming up next month. Dr. Andy Waskie, who guided last year's Philadelphia field trip to Laurel Hill Cemetery and The Union League of Philadelphia, will share his extensive knowledge of Civil War era veterans' organizations, with a focus on the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R). Dr. Waskie is a highly credentialed historian, especially on the subject of the Civil War, and I'm really looking forward to hearing what he has to share with us. Hope to see many of you there.

Inside, you'll notice that the literary logjam seems to have finally broken up—we found 19 Civil War books scheduled to release in March! You'll find the list on page 7. Inside, you'll also find behind-the-scenes tidbits and retrospective thoughts related to the Battle of Pea Ridge, which took place this month in 1863 plus preliminary details about our planned June fieldtrip to Frederick, Maryland, and 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 member of the Color Bearer Society, and a member of ABT's 25-Year Club, all in recognition for its loyal and general support of battlefield preservation.

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

Join us for:

“The History of the Grand Army of the Republic” (G.A.R.)

Guest Speaker: Dr. Andy Waskie

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Soon after the American Civil War ended, many of those who served began missing the comrades with whom they’d forged friendships during the trials and dangers they’d had faced together. A few of the veterans’ clubs sprang up around the county grew to become national organizations. Of these, the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) became the nation’s preeminent veterans’ organization and the most powerful single-issue political lobby of the late 19th century.

Join us as retired Univ. of Temple professor and historian Andy Waskie shares his extensive knowledge about the G.A.R.



Dr. Waskie (left), impersonating Gen. George Meade. He is historian for the G.A.R. Museum & Library and Laurel Hill Cemetery, both in Philadelphia. He is also president of the

George Meade Society of Philadelphia and a charter member of the Philadelphia Civil War History Consortium.

SIGN UP TODAY ...

to attend “The History of the Grand Army of the Republic.”

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, MARCH 3rd, 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!

February Meeting Recap

- ★ 30 dinner attendees and 18 lecture walk-ins
- ★ February book raffle: \$116, bringing Campaign 45 cumulative total to \$574
- ★ February print raffle sales: 8 packs of tickets purchased (\$40)



February book raffle winners:

I-r: Wayne Schaeffer, Laura Kleinschmidt, Sherri Miller, Gary Weaver, Bill Frankenfield, Whitey Buesing*
* first-time attendee

February’s speaker, Gen. Sickles, with 1st Calvary Division members Barry Arnold (left) and Dennis Harris (right).



At “General Sickles” request, the \$50 honorarium donated by the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. will be donated to the Confederation of Union Generals.

★ Many thanks to Kay Bagenstose and Barry Arnold for donations made to the CWRT Round Table of Eastern Pa. Inc.



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

February 15, 2023: Adams County Historical Society Museum Opens April 15 and 16

February 9, 2023: Unexploded Shell Found Near Little Round Top

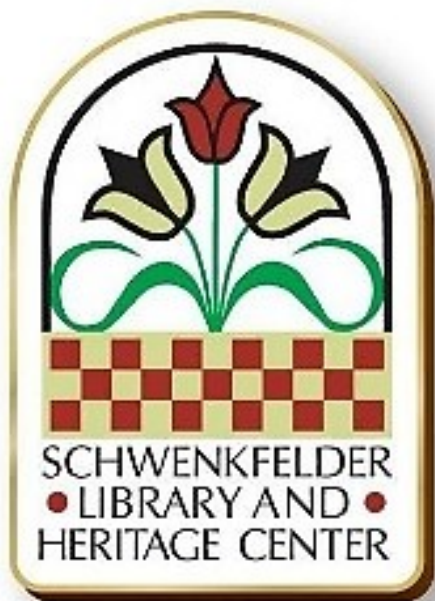
Civil War Preservation News: www.cwrteasternpa.org/preservation

February 15, 2023: Help Save Pristine Acres at Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain

February 2, 2023: Preserve 128 Acres at Antietam and Shepherdstown

February 2, 2023: Help Save 52 Acres at Three Battlefields

Civil War Event News



Two April Events at Schwenkfelder Heritage Center 105 Seminary St., Pennsburg, Pa.

Admission FREE through May 15.

The events (below) are being held in conjunction with the J. F. Hartranft Exhibit and the Schwenkfelder Experience in the American Civil War:

Dancing Like Hartranft

Demonstration by
The Civil War Dance
Foundation
Sunday, April 16, 2 pm. Free.

The Lincoln Assassination Conspirators: Their Confinement and Execution, as Recorded in the Letterbook of John Frederick Hartranft

Book talk with editor
Harold Holzer. Sunday,
April 30, 2:00 pm, tickets \$10;
register at
schwenkfelder.org/calendar or
call 215-679-3103.

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. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us!

Date	Title	Speaker
Apr 4	The Victorian Historian: Victorian Life in the 1860s	Adam Shefts
May 2	Women to the Rescue at the Spangler Farm, Gettysburg	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.*

SAVE THE DATE!

Field Trip to Monocacy Battlefield and the Nat'l Museum of Civil War Medicine

Saturday, June 17, 2023 (more details to follow)



- **6:15 AM:** Carpoolers to leave Delta by Marriot parking lot (former Holiday Inn, Rte. 100)
- **9:15 AM:** Participate in a drive-yourself tour of Monocacy battlefield (approximately 6-mile route)
- Lunch (details TBD)
- **12:30 PM:** Arrive at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine
- **2-3:00 PM:** Lecture: Without Concealment, without Compromise: The Courageous Lives of Black Civil War Surgeons (ticketed event)
- **4:00 PM:** Depart for the Lehigh Valley (museum closes at 5 PM)

Estimated per-person cost for battlefield tour and museum lecture: \$20

Interested? Questions? Contact Claire at clkuk@ptd.net.

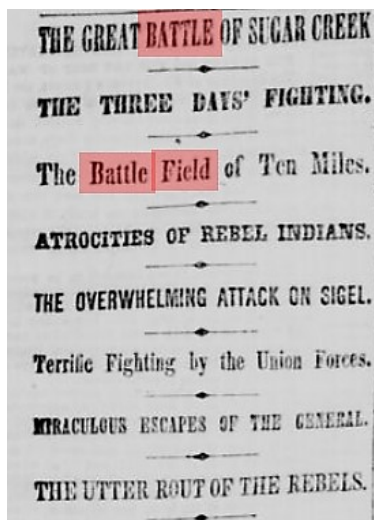
Campaign 45 Print Raffle Preservation Fundraiser

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

March 6-8, 1863

Perspectives, Facts and Trivia: The Battle of Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern)



The Civil War catapulted the newspaper industry to new heights. But some outlets didn't let truth (or ethics) get in the way of a good story.

On March 20, 1862, the *New York Tribune* announced a Union victory at Pea Ridge, Arkansas, with the headline, "The Great Battle of Sugar Creek," and a stirring, full-page account, complete with a map showing troop positions and important landmarks. The readers of the *Tribune* and its editorial staff believed the piece to be an eyewitness account which, in fact, had been composed far from the scene. The article would go down in infamy as one of Civil War journalism's most blatant deceptions.

continued on next page



Above: The 1889 Kurtz and Allison print depicts a far greater percentage of Cherokee fighters than actually participated in the battle. (Notice the artist's use of shadow and light to highlight the image in the lower left.)

of at least eight wounded Union soldiers by Cherokee warriors. They viewed the scalping incident as having overshadowed the role that Native American troops played in the Civil War—as well as the strategic significance of the Battle of Pea Ridge. Sadly, a resolution issued after the battle by the Cherokee National Council to oppose and admonish the incident did little to temper Northern sentiment—newspaper accounts of the event horrified the citizenry and generated all sorts of wild rumors.



Women Wanted Him; Men Wanted to be Him

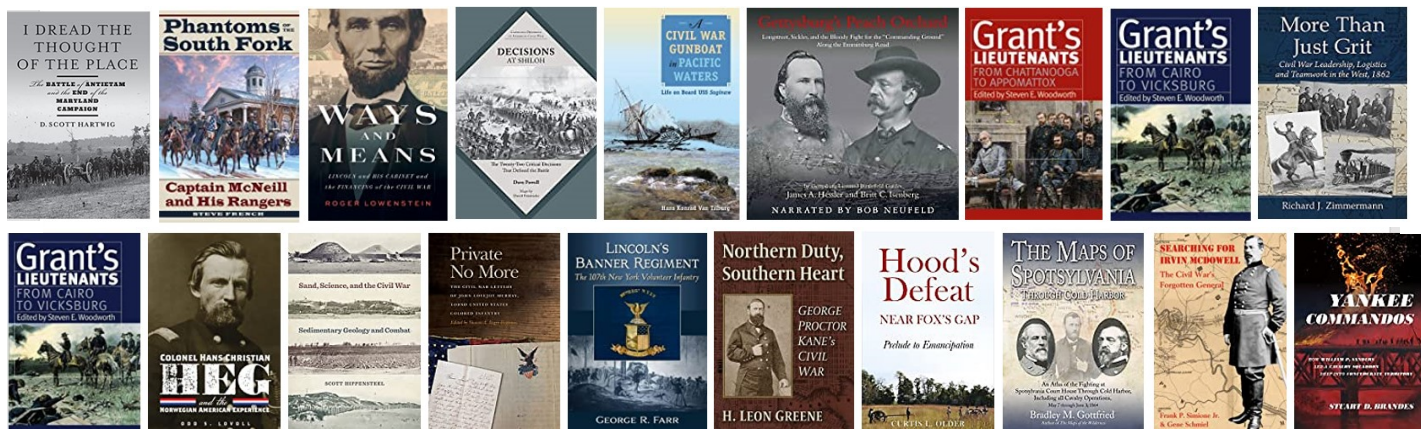
On the night of March 6, 1862, Confederate Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn and his 16,000-man Army of the West set out to counterattack the Union position near Pea Ridge. To help him move quickly, Van Dorn ordered the supply trains far to the rear—a fateful decision, as it turned out. On Day 2 of the engagement, Van Dorn's troops ran short of ammunition and, unable to reach supply lines, were forced to abandon the battlefield—an action that left Arkansas virtually defenseless and led to Union control of the border state of Missouri for the next two years.

Van Dorn was described as a physically short, impulsive, and highly emotional individual. A period journalist dubbed him, “the terror of ugly husbands and nervous papas,” a description that later became something of an epitaph: Van Dorn was shot in the back of the head and killed by George B. Peters, a husband who was jealous of the intimate “attentions” Van Dorn had paid to his 18-year-old wife. And as we learned last month from our February lecturer, “General Daniel Sickles,” murder for reasons of adultery were often overlooked in those days.

(Sickles killed the lover of his first wife and “got off” by claiming temporary insanity.)

Bridget Smith, author of “Where Elephants Fought: The Murder of Confederate General Earl Van Dorn,” suggested, in her 2015 novel—a product that was 20 years in the making—that the real motivation behind the doctor's decision to murder Van Dorn was not jealousy, but loyalty and sacrifice. Van Dorn's sister, Octavia, claimed, in a piece entitled, “A Soldier's Honor,” that “Peters was a hired assassin who was assigned to kill any key Confederate commander under whatever pretext he could devise.”

March, 2023, Civil War Book Releases



I Dread the Thought of the Place: The Battle of Antietam and the End of the Maryland Campaign, by David S. Hartwig | March 3, 2023

Phantoms of the South Fork: Captain McNeill and His Rangers, Part of: Civil War Soldiers and Strategies (9 books), by Steve French | Mar 7, 2023

Ways and Means: Lincoln and His Cabinet and the Financing of the Civil War by Roger Lowenstein | Mar 8, 2022

A Civil War Gunboat in Pacific Waters: Life on Board USS Saginaw, by Hans Konrad Van Tilburg | Mar 9, 2023

Decisions at Shiloh: The Twenty-Two Critical Decisions That Defined the Battle, by Dave Powell | Mar 10, 2023

Gettysburg's Peach Orchard: Longstreet, Sickles, and the Bloody Fight for the "Commanding Ground Along the Emmitsburg Road by James A. Hessler, Britt C. Isenberg, et al. | Mar 10, 2023

Grant's Lieutenants: From Chattanooga to Appomattox, by Steven E. Woodworth | Mar 10, 2023

Grant's Lieutenants: From Cairo to Vicksburg, by Steven E. Woodworth | Mar 10, 2023

More Than Just Grit: Civil War Leadership, Logistics and Teamwork in the West, 1862, by Richard J. Zimmermann | Mar 12, 2023

Colonel Hans Christian Heg and the Norwegian American Experience, by Odd S. Lovoll | Mar 14, 2023

Sand, Science, and the Civil War: Sedimentary Geology and Combat, by Scott Hippensteel | Mar 15, 2023

Private No More: The Civil War Letters of John Lovejoy Murray, 102nd United States Colored Infantry, by Sharon A. Roger Hepburn | Mar 15, 2023

Lincoln's Banner Regiment: The 107th New York Volunteer Infantry, by George R. Farr | May 18, 2023

Northern Duty, Southern Heart: George Proctor Kane's Civil War, by H. Leon Greene | May 18, 2023

Hood's Defeat Near Fox's Gap: Prelude to Emancipation, by Curtis L. Older | Mar 22, 2023

The Maps of Spotsylvania through Cold Harbor, by Bradley M. Gottfried | Mar 22, 2023

Searching for Irvin McDowell: The Civil War's Forgotten General, by Frank P. Simone Jr. and Gene Schmiel | Mar 22, 2023

Yankee Commandos: How William P. Sanders Led a Cavalry Squadron Deep Into Confederate Territory, by Stuart Brandes | Mar 29, 2023

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."

Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> I am reenlisting for Campaign 45 <input type="checkbox"/> I am a new recruit	Indicate your membership preference: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time student: \$10
(Please print clearly, ESPECIALLY your email address!!)	
Name:	
Mailing address:	
Email 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, e.g., supporting the vital work of museums and saving battlefield acreage from developers.</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)/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 yes, please elaborate 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? 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):	
<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>	

**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.**