



May, 2023

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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 recent stretch of more seasonal spring weather has me in the mood to do some traveling. Lucky for me, it just so happens that we've got a group trip planned in mid-June to Monocacy Battlefield in Frederick, Maryland, and the nearby National Museum of Civil War Medicine. You'll find the details on page 4.

And although our group trip to Gettysburg won't happen until October (see page 3 for details), we'll be privileged, at our May 2nd meeting, to hear from a man who is no stranger to the CWRT of Eastern Pa. Retired writer Ron Kirkwood, now a Gettysburg Foundation guide, has spent years searching for facts, figures and other minutia about what took place during and after the battle at the George Spangler Farm, which served as a temporary XI Corps field hospital. Should be a good one. Hope you can make it. You'll find more information inside, on page 2.

And while I'm on the subject of Gettysburg, don't forget to check out the list of recently published articles (hyperlinks are posted on page 3). There, you'll find links to two stories that share news of increased accessibility on the Gettysburg Battlefield and summer open house dates for the home that served as Lee's headquarters during the battle ... 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:

“Women to the Rescue at the Battle of Gettysburg’s George Spangler Farm”

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Ron Kirkwood returns to the CWRT of Eastern Pennsylvania to share stories about heroes who served at the George Spangler Farm during the Battle of Gettysburg and helped to pioneer professional nursing—both in the midst and the aftermath of the battle. The women who served as nurses at the farm, which had been commandeered to serve as a hospital for the Union’s XI Corps, played a much broader role than attending to wounds—actions that both saved lives and brought great comfort to the dying.

Ron Kirkwood is the author of “Too Much for Human Endurance: The George Spangler Farm Hospitals and the Battle of Gettysburg,” a book now in its second paperback edition, and is working on a sequel scheduled to publish in 2024. Prior to his retirement, Ron enjoyed 40-year career as an editor and writer for several periodicals, including “USA TODAY.” He has been a Gettysburg Foundation guide at the George Spangler Farm Civil War Field Hospital Site since it opened in 2013. A native of Michigan, Ron now lives in York, Pa. with his wife, Barbara.

SIGN UP TODAY ...



to attend “Women to the Rescue at the Battle of Gettysburg’s George Spangler Farm” with speaker Ron Kirkwood.

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, April 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!

March Meeting Recap

- ★ 30 dinner attendees and 9 lecture walk-ins
- ★ March book raffle: \$98, bringing the Campaign 45 cumulative total to \$807.

Many thanks to Kay Bagenstose and Tony Major for donations made.

April book raffle winners:

I-r: Barb Kreidler, Bill Frankenfield, Sherri Miller, Gerry Sherwin, Chuck Dzielawa, Gary Weaver



April’s speaker,

Adam Shefts, will donate his \$50 honorarium to the Adams County SPCA in Gettysburg.

CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE OF EASTERN PA

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

March 27: *Honoring Service across Generations*

March 28: *McAllister's Battery Day and Artillery Weekend at Shiloh National Military Park (April 1-2)*

March 28: *The Grounds of Wisler House Are Now Open*

April 4: *Work to Stabilize Vicksburg National Cemetery Set to Begin*

April 15: *Increased Accessibility Now Available on Gettysburg Battlefield*

April 19: *Dates Announced for Open House at Lee's HQ in Gettysburg*

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

March 24: *Years in the Making: 44 Acres Transferred to the National Park Service*



Barbeque Lunch and Tour at Evergreen Cemetery, Gettysburg, Pa. Saturday, October 7, 2023

Here's a great chance learn more about the history of the Evergreen Cemetery and nearby Soldiers' National Cemetery—the latter being the place where President Abraham Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address. Following a BBQ lunch, hosted by Evergreen Cemetery superintendent Brian Kennell,

our journey back in time will begin by passing through the historic gateway to the Evergreen Cemetery, which played a role during the Battle of Gettysburg.

11:00 AM: Carpoolers to leave Delta by Marriot parking lot (former Holiday Inn, Rte. 100, Breinigsville)

1:00 PM: BBQ lunch on the lawn of the Gatehouse

2 - 4:00 PM: Walking tour of the Evergreen Cemetery and (if you like) the nearby National Cemetery

Copies of "Beyond the Gatehouse: Gettysburg's Evergreen Cemetery," will be available for purchase, as will music written by the book's author, Brian Kennell. All proceeds will be used for cemetery preservation and repairs to the Gate House.

Interested? Contact Claire at clkuk@ptd.net



One of several battle-damaged graveyard markers at the Evergreen Cemetery

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
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.

Monocacy Battlefield and Visit to the National Museum of Civil War Medicine Saturday, June 17, 2023



- **6:45 AM:** Carpoolers to leave Delta by Marriot parking lot (former Holiday Inn, Rte. 100, Breinigsville)
- **10 AM:** Muster at the Battlefield's Visitors' Center, where we will be treated to a lecture. Afterwards, participants will return to their vehicles for a drive-yourself tour of Monocacy Battlefield.
- Lunch (details TBD)
- **1 PM:** Arrive at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine; free time on your own to tour the exhibits
- **2-3: 00 PM:** Lecture: [Without Concealment, without Compromise: The Courageous Lives of Black Civil War Surgeons](#)
- **3 - 4:00 PM:** Free time to further explore the museum.
- **4:00 PM:** Carpool departs for the Lehigh Valley (museum closes at 5 PM)

Estimated \$20 per-person for the cost of entry into the Museum and lecture.
(NOTE: Entry into the battlefield park is free.)

Interested? Contact Claire at clkuk@ptd.net

Angel Island: A Vast and Diverse History

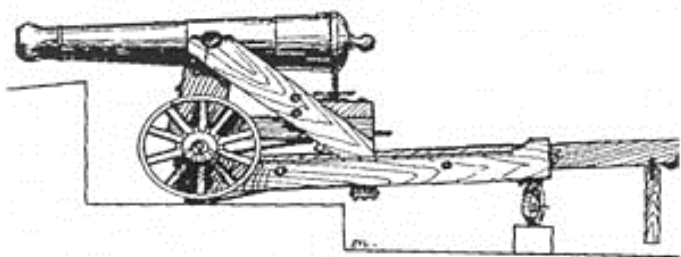
The first time I learned about Angel Island was while watching, “Escape from Alcatraz,” a 1972 movie starring Clint Eastwood. After witnessing the dehumanizing treatment of the prisoners, I caught myself leaning forward during one scene, when hardened criminal Frank Morris (a.k.a. Eastwood) whispered to some of his cell block mates, “I may have found a way out of here.” The suspenseful scenes that followed were nothing short of thrilling. Late in the movie, with authorities in the midst of a search on Angel Island for the escaped convicts, evidence was found to indicate that the men had stopped there—and a legend was born.

Angel Island, of course, had been a place of note long before the actors portraying Morris and the two Anglin brothers paid it a cinematographic visit.

The U.S. military history of Angel Island began in 1850, shortly after the Mexican-American War, when President Millard Fillmore declared the island a military preserve. Before that, and while California was still under Mexican rule, the island was home to a cattle ranch, with a part of the island set aside as a fort. In 1849, thanks to some sleight-of-hand legal work, the U.S. gained ownership to the entire island.

By 1863, and with the American Civil War in full swing, government forces began worrying that Confederate sympathizers or commerce raiders would slip past Fort Point, a Civil War era fortress tucked near to the Golden Gate Bridge, and seize control of San Francisco or the military bases of Mare Island and Benicia. At the time, Southern California secession seemed possible; the populace was largely in favor of it, and militias with secessionist sympathies had been formed. In response, Camp Reynolds (later West Garrison) was established on Angel Island; artillery batteries were built near the camp at three locations; an unofficial water battery* was also built. The first two structures (and, coincidentally, the only original buildings remaining on the island) were built in 1863 and 1864 to house officers. Additional buildings were later added for enlisted men, a chapel, a mule bar and corral.

No Confederate attacks ever came.



Left: *Rendering of a U.S. 32-Pounder on Barbette Carriage. The Civil War artillery emplacements on Angel Island had a total armament of 26 guns, 21 of them smooth-bored 32-pounders like the image shown here. Three of these cannon were located at Point Stuart, seven at Point Knox, and six at Point Blunt. Five cannon were mounted in the unofficial water battery* at Camp's wharf.*

Following the War, Camp Reynolds would become an infantry camp, serving as a depot for recruits and as a staging area for troops serving in campaigns against the Apache, Sioux, Modoc, and other Indian tribes. By 1876, the camp was home to more than 2,000 soldiers and complete military camps or posts, including a chapel, bakery, blacksmith, shoemaker, laundry, barber, trading store, and photographer.

* *The lowest level of the three tiers of guns designed to deliver water-skipping cannonade.*

(Continued on the next page)

In 1900, the Camp was renamed Fort McDowell.

The Fort served its most famous (infamous?) role as an immigration station for thousands of Asians entering the U.S. (Although most historians would argue the station's role was to prevent Asians, especially those from China, from ever entering the U.S.) The Fort operated in this capacity for 30 years as the West Coast's main immigration center.) In all, the center processed about 500,000 immigrants from 80 countries over a 30-year period, with the majority of immigrants coming from Japan and China.

During Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II, Angel Island became a major military embarkation center. During World War II and until 1945, Japanese and German POWs were held here. In the 1950s, the island became a Nike missile base until 1962, when the base was decommissioned.

Campaign 45 Print Raffle Preservation Fundraiser

Time is running out to purchase tickets for Campaign 45. Tickets will be sold at the May and June Round Table meetings OR you can 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 1/2") of Gettysburg Battlefield that was addressed to General Meade and signed by Union generals
- ★ Framed print (27 1/2" x 24") of Abraham Lincoln
- ★ Framed (24 1/2" x 18 1/2") 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

May, 2023, Civil War Book Releases



Toward a More Perfect Union: The Civil War Letters of Frederic and Elizabeth Lockley, by Charles E. Rankin | May 1, 2023

The Search for Idaho's Civil War Treasure: One Family's Journey from a Missouri Farm to the Idaho Mountains and the Secret They Kept for Almost 150 Years, by Brian L. McMahan and John F. Luthy | May 1, 2023

A Wilderness of Destruction: Confederate Guerillas in East and South Florida, 1861-1865, by Zack C. Waters | May 2, 2023

Tempest over Texas: The Fall and Winter Campaigns of 1863-1864, by Donald S. Frazier | May 2, 2023

Forging a New South: The Life of General John T. Wilder, by Maury Nicely | May 4, 2023

Yankee Commandos: How William P. Sanders Led a Cavalry Squadron Deep into Confederate Territory, by Stuart Brandes | May 5, 2023

"If We Are Striking for Pennsylvania": The Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac March to Gettysburg. Volume 2: June 22-30, 1863, by Scott L. Mingus Sr. and Eric J. Wittenberg | May 5, 2023

"No Such Army Since the Days of Julius Caesar": Sherman's Carolinas Campaign from Fayetteville to Averagesboro, March 1865, by Mark A. Smith and Wade Sokolosky | May 7, 2023

Through Blood and Fire: The Civil War Letters of Major Charles J. Mills, 1862-1865, Revised and Expanded Edition, by J. Gregory Acken | May 9, 2023

A Civil War Legacy: The Saga of East Tennessee Outlaw James Wright and John Templeton, by Marvin J. Byrd | May 9, 2023

The Civil War Soldier and the Press, by Katrina J. Quinn and David B. Sachsman | May 9, 2023

The Men of the 16th Massachusetts: A Civil War Roster and History, by Alden C. Ellis Jr. | May 12, 2023

Decisions at Franklin: The Nineteen Critical Decisions That Defined the Battle, by Andrew S. Bledsoe | May 18, 2023

The Last Battle of Winchester: Phil Sheridan, Jubal Early, and the Shenandoah Valley Campaign, August 7-September 19, 1864, by Scott C. Patchan | May 20, 2022

Gettysburg in Color: Volume 2: The Wheatfield to Falling Waters, by Patrick Brennan and Dylan Brennan | May 22, 2023

The Pennsylvania Wilds and the Civil War, by Kathy Myers | May 22, 2023

"The Bullets Flew Like Hail": Cutler's Brigade at Gettysburg, from McPherson's Ridge to Culp's Hill, by James L. McLean Jr. | May 22, 2023

Northern Duty, Southern Heart: George Proctor Kane's Civil War, by H. Leon Greene | May 28, 2023

Without Concealment, Without Compromise: The Courageous Lives of Black Civil War Surgeons, by Jill L. Newmark | May 31, 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.**