



October, 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

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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

**website:** [www.cwrteasternpa.org](http://www.cwrteasternpa.org)

**email:** [malymc@ptd.net](mailto: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

Our first field trip of Campaign 46 will have us heading to Gettysburg's Evergreen Cemetery (on Saturday, October 7). The carpool will leave from the Marriot at Delta parking lot at 10:30 a.m. and arrive just in time for a barbeque lunch. Afterwards, participants will be treated to a two-hour tour of the cemetery and the Gatehouse Museum. A few spots have recently opened up, and so, if you'd like to join the trip, please contact Claire Kukielka at [clkuk@ptd.net](mailto:clkuk@ptd.net) as soon as you can.

Our October lecture will feature the Battle of Seven Pines/Fair Oaks. I hope you'll be able to join us. Guest speaker Victor Vignola, whose book on the subject is scheduled for a November, 2023, release, has collected from some never-before-published sources to create what he says is "an original tactical and leadership study that directly challenges convention accounts." You can read more about the lecture inside. Sounds like it could be an interesting one! I hope to see you there!

In other news, our quest to bring home Captain Taylor's sword continues to inch closer to reality—you'll find an update inside.

*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 46th Campaign Year!** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Join us for:****“The Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks):  
The Turning Points of the Civil War,”  
with Victor Vignola****Tuesday, October 3, 2023**

A bloody, two-day battle, fought on the doorstep of the Confederate capital, had been the first major combat in the Eastern Theater since Bull Run/ Manassas, which took place almost a year earlier. It left more than 11,000 casualties in its wake and cost the primary Southern field army its commander. The possession of Richmond hung in its balance. And yet, little has been written about Seven Pines/Fair Oaks.

Guest speaker Victor Vignola, who has authored, “Contracts in Command: The Battle of Fair Oaks” (a book scheduled for a November, 2023, release) is a lifelong student of the Civil War who has written numerous articles for publication, delivers historical programs, conducts tours, and regularly visits Civil War sites. He lives with his family in Orange County, NY, home of the 124th New York “Orange Blossoms” Regiment.

**SIGN UP TODAY ...**

to attend “The Battle of Seven Pines/Fair Oaks: The Turning Points of the Civil War,” with guest speaker Victor Vignola on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**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**

Dinner start: 6:30 PM ★ Lecture start: ~ 7:15 PM

**Deadline to reserve a spot for dinner:****Friday, September 29 by/before 12:00 p.m.**

To register, contact Jim Duffy

**([duffysocwk@aol.com](mailto:duffysocwk@aol.com)) or 610-253-4549**

(email preferred).

**Walk-in lecture reservations are  
NOT required!**

**More about our September, 2023,  
meeting**

- ★ 20 dinner attendees and 14 lecture walk-ins
- ★ June book raffle: \$60

**September book raffle winners:**

**I-r:** Connie Taglieber, Bill Frankenfield, Claire Kukielka, Terri Monroe, Kathleen Coddington

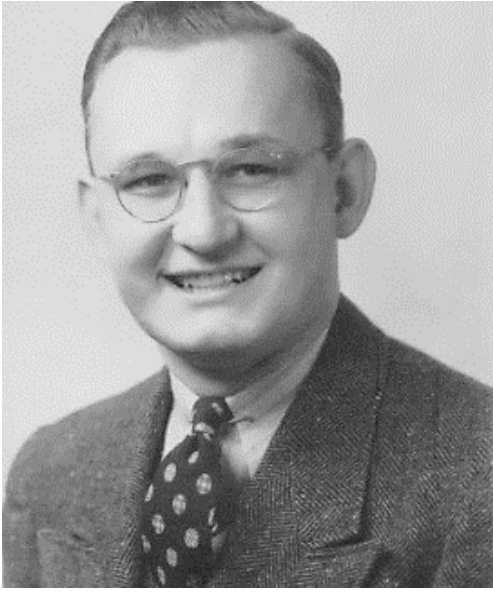


**September speaker,** Rev. Dr. Nancy Hale, provided another well-researched presentation for our Round Table—this time, on chaplains who served during the Battle of Gettysburg. Rev. Hale’s \$50 honorarium will be donated to the American Battlefield Trust.

**Pictured below: Round Table President Barry Arnold with speaker Nancy Hale.**



## **Karl Lehr: His Legacy of Philanthropy Lives on**



Each year, we honor Karl Lehr, a former Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa. member. Which is as it should be: It was his bequest of \$123,955, made almost 15 years ago, that catapulted a now-well-respected Civil War preservation movement (that's us!) into the public eye. Today, we stand toe to toe with other organizations and individuals in the fight to protect and preserve battlefield acreage and artifacts. Our Round Table's current campaign to bring home the sword of Bethlehem native Captain Jonathan Taylor is a prime example of the kind of dedication to preservation and public service that Karl demonstrated for so many years.

Karl was born in Allentown. After attending Muhlenberg College and Lehigh University, he fulfilled his childhood dream of cruising the high seas by spending 15 months aboard ship during World War II—this, after having served two years in the

U.S. Army Signal Corps. He also spent three years in Army intelligence, serving in liaison with the Navy. He later served as Sergeant of the Eiffel Town Guard and a staff member of the U.S. Army University in England.

Post-war, Karl taught American history to German students and, upon his return to the U.S., taught American students in New Jersey and Illinois. Soon after moving back to Allentown and joining our Round Table, he turned in what became decades-long dedication to our Round Table's mission and served in multiple capacities. Perhaps most notably, he helped to form our Preservation and Restoration Committee.

## **Round Table Member News**

### **September meeting reenlistments:**

Our thanks to the following members their continued support of the CWRT of Eastern Pa.: Terri Lynn Monroe, Laura Kleinschmidt, Ed Oechsle, Frank Barna, Chuck Cannon, Dennis Harris, Kim Jacobs, Joe Riggs, Connie Taglieber, Jeff Gates, Nancy Becker, James McMahan, Wayne Blattner, Bill Frankenfield, Jim Duffy, David Hohe and Claire Kukielka.

### **Donations received at our September meeting:**

We also thank the following for their generosity and dedication to Civil War preservation efforts: Ed Root, Ed Oechlse, Laura Kleinschmidt, Nancy Becker, Marie Maly, Hunt Schenkel, Claire Kukielka, Kay Bagenstose, Barry Arnold, Diane French, Jeff Gates, Sherri Miller and Jim Duffy.



## The Hilt is Nearly Within Our Grasp: An Update

by Ed Root

We are just \$,1000 short of reaching the needed sum to purchase Caption Jonathan Taylor's sword. I'd like to extend my personal thanks to those who, like me, want very much to be part of this worthy initiative to bring a local man's sword back to his hometown.

I have more good news to share. We are currently in discussions with an individual who has expressed some interest in making a sizeable donation to this initiative—and so, I hope to be able to share some REALLY good news at our October 3 Round Table meeting. Of course, you can also offer your own donation (or additional donation) at our October meeting or, if you prefer, send a tax-deductible donation payable to "CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc.," and sent to P. O. Box 333,

Allentown, PA 18105. Just please remember to write "Sword" in the Note section of your check.

Thanks again for putting your trust (and hard-earned funds) in the hands of the CWRT of Eastern Pa., Inc. and really getting behind this effort.

## Campaign 46 Lecture Schedule

The list below represents our lineup of Campaign 46 speakers and the titles of their presentations. (You'll find information about the September lecture on page 2 of this newsletter). For more details, watch for monthly newsletters or visit our Round Table's website [www.cwrteasternpa.org/](http://www.cwrteasternpa.org/).

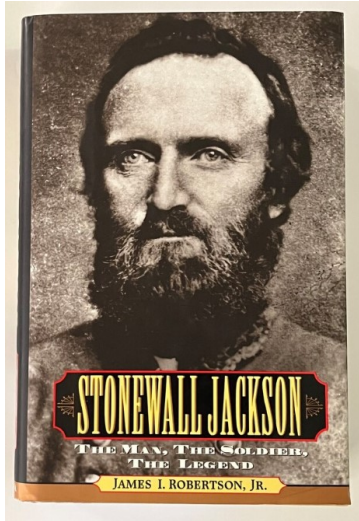
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November 7	"Walk a Mile with Lincoln (November 19, 1863)"	Linda Clark
December 5	"A Soldier's Civil War Christmas"	Michael Jesberger
January 2	"Thirteen Months in Dixie OR the Adventures of a Federal Prisoner in Texas"	Steven Knowlton
February 6	"Cedar Mountain"	M. Chris Bryan
March 5	"Women Combat Soldiers in the War"	James Hedtke
April 2	"Fort Sumter's Long Shadow: Mr. Lincoln Calls for an Army, and Northern States Respond."	Leon Reed
May 7	"Point Lookout Confederate POW Camp"	Bradley Gottfried
June 4	"Who is James Longstreet?"	Lt. General James Longstreet, CSA, and his wife, Helen Dortch Longstreet

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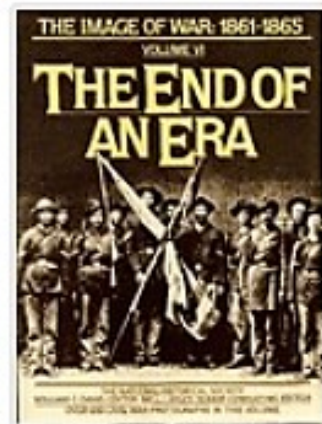
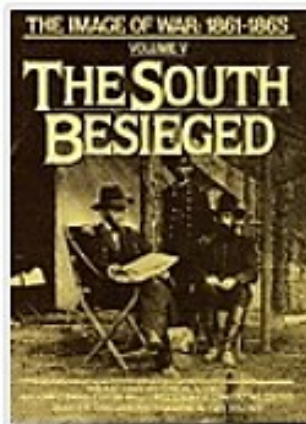
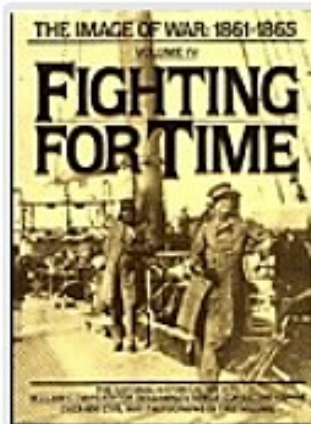
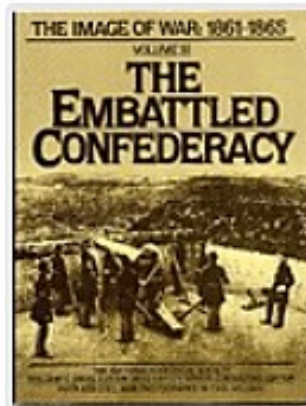
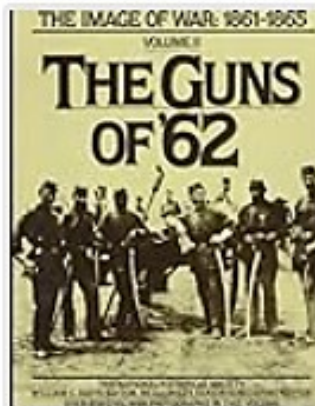
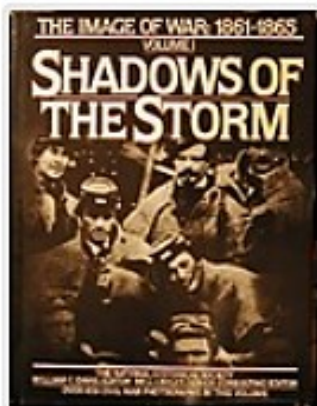
## Campaign 46 Print Raffle

Based on feedback received from Round Table members, the Board has decided that our Campaign 46 Print Raffle fundraiser will feature fewer items than in previous years. This newsletter issue shares the books included in this year's raffle. Next month's issue will feature the prints that are included in the raffle. (The books and prints will be on display at every monthly meeting.)



◀ “Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend,” considered by some as one of the most successful Civil War books in history, is described by the author thus: “... not a biography of a great general; it is the life of an extraordinary man who became a great general.”

▼ “The Image of War: 1861-1865,” is a six-volume set published by the National Historical Society between 1981 and 1984. Inside each volume, photographs show both sides during the Civil War and are accompanied by essays on war photography and history. Abe Books calls the series “an unparalleled pictorial history of the Civil War.”



Just a reminder that our print raffle is one of the ways our Round Table earns revenue to support ongoing Civil War preservation efforts. And so, every purchase of a raffle ticket book is an investment in the ongoing struggle to protect our nation's “hallowed ground.”

## CIVIL WAR ERA HAUNTINGS: REAL OR IMAGINED?



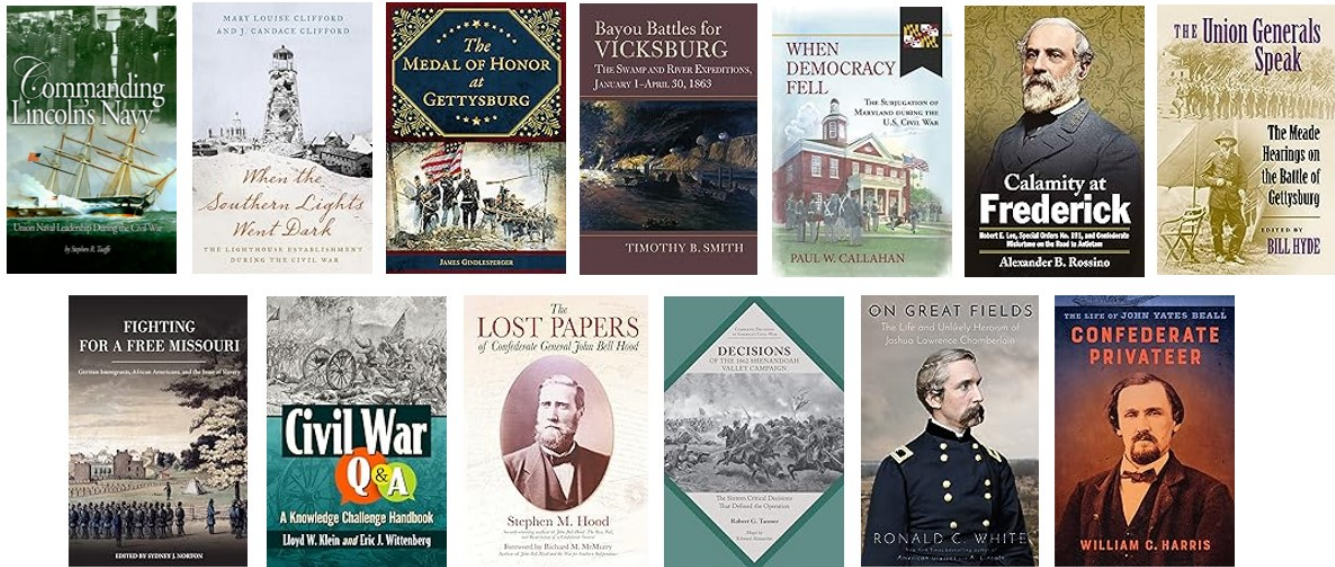
The headless Zouave at Bull Run, the drummer boy at Shiloh, the phantom battalion at Gettysburg. Varied sightings at Chancellorsville, Vicksburg, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Petersburg, Appomattox Court House. The schoolboys who heard a Christmas carol at Bloody Lane (Antietam) that was later thought to be a Gaelic battle cry, “Faugh A Balaugh,” or “Clear the way!” The ghost of Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard wandering about his former home in full-dress uniform.

With Halloween just a few weeks away, now seems a good time to ask, ‘Are these phantoms real?’

According to a poll taken in 2018, 58 percent said that they believe places can be haunted by spirits. Another survey, conducted by the Pew Research Center, found that one in five participants believed they had either seen—or been in the presence—of a ghost. A *USA Today* article claimed that two in five believe in ghosts. A Baylor Center of Medicine’s survey data revealed that 18 percent of Americans believe they’ve been in the presence of a ghost, and 29 percent said they have felt in touch with someone who died.

Ghost stories and ghost tours are great money-makers for the folks who entertain (frighten?) their customers, especially around Halloween. But scientists agree: These customers are actually ghosting themselves. Apparently, we humans can’t always trust our eyes, ears or brains. The recipe for ghost sightings, they say, is a combination of being open to the possibility of the paranormal and possessing the right combination of personality traits, cognitive styles, and religious beliefs. A final ingredient for a chilling encounter may well be a spooky environment.

## October, 2023, Civil War Book Releases



**Commanding Lincoln's Navy: Union Naval Leadership During the Civil War**, by Stephen Taaffe | Oct 1, 2023

**When the Southern Lights Went Dark: The Lighthouse Establishment during the Civil War**, by Mary Louise Clifford and J. Candace Clifford | Oct 1, 2023

**The Medal of Honor at Gettysburg**, by James Gindlesperger | Oct 2, 2023

**Bayou Battles for Vicksburg: The Swamp and River Expeditions, January 1-April 30, 1863**, by Timothy B. Smith | Oct 3, 2023

**When Democracy Fell: The Subjugation of Maryland during the U.S. Civil War**, by Paul W Callahan | Oct 3, 2023

**Calamity at Frederick: Robert E. Lee, Special Orders No. 191, and Confederate Misfortune on the Road to Antietam**, by Alexander B. Rossino | Oct 7, 2023

**The Union Generals Speak: The Meade Hearings on the Battle of Gettysburg**, by Bill Hyde | Oct 20, 2023

**Fighting for a Free Missouri: German Immigrants, African Americans, and the Issue of Slavery**, by Sydney J. Norton | Oct 20, 2023

**Civil War Q&A: A Knowledge Challenge Handbook**, by Lloyd W. Klein and Eric J. Wittenberg | Oct 22, 2023

**The Lost Papers of Confederate General John Bell Hood**, by Stephen Hood | Oct 22, 2023

**Decisions of the 1862 Shenandoah Valley Campaign: The Sixteen Critical Decisions That Defined the Operation**, by Robert Tanner | Oct 27, 2023

**On Great Fields: The Life and Unlikely Heroism of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain**, by Ronald C. White | Oct 31, 2023

**Confederate Privateer: The Life of John Yates Beall**, by William C. Harris | Oct 25, 2023

**Battle of Gettysburg: The Impact of Alternative Technologies on Civil War History**, by Gian Gentile, David E. Johnson, et al. | Oct 31, 2023

**Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., Inc.****CAMPAIGN 46 MEMBERSHIP FORM (2023-2024)**

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."

<b>Select one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> I am reenlisting for Campaign 46 <input type="checkbox"/> I am a new recruit	<b>Indicate your membership preference:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time student: \$10
(Please print clearly, ESPECIALLY your email address!!)	
<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Mailing address:</b>	
<b>Email address:</b>	<b>Phone number:</b>
<p><b>I am including a donation (in addition to my membership dues) \$ _____.</b>  <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>	
<b>(NEW RECRUITS): Please tell us about your American Civil War interests and experiences:</b>	
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:	
<b>(NEW RECRUITS <u>AND</u> REENLISTERS): Do you have a particular interest in the Civil War?</b>	
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 ( <i>note below</i> ):	
<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 <b>NEVER</b> share your contact information unless it has obtained your permission in advance to do so.</i></p>	

**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.**