



June 2017 – Winter Campaign 39: Meeting on June 06, 2017

Annual George Seligman Installation Dinner:

June 6th is our annual Seligman Dinner. As George Seligman passed away in 1985, many of you never had the pleasure to have known George. Every organization has one member who leaves an indelible imprint. George was an Air Force veteran and was in the insurance business. He was always cheerful and didn't have a shy bone in his body. It was George who led a small group of Civil War history enthusiasts from the rather formal setting of the Lehigh County Court House to the promised land of monthly dinner meetings and a membership that grew from dozens to hundreds. George, while our gregarious leader, always prodded others into the front, always encouraged others to step up and share the responsibility and the fun of being part of this wonderful round table. George loved to keep things loose and nary a meeting went by without someone being picked on in a loving and caring manner. In fact, it was an honor to be so chosen. He made it clear that we were all students of history, that some may be very knowledgeable and others novices, but the point was that even the most serious and knowing could and did learn from the novice. George loved the story of Joshua Chamberlain and the 20th Maine at Gettysburg in a time long before the Ken Burn's series made him a household name. Our success over the years is due in great part to the foundation and standard that George set. Tonight we remember and honor him.

From the Brigade Commander: Ed Root

The horrors of War have always impacted the physical bodies of the participants, but also the minds and indeed the souls. Civil War medical care for the wounded in the was primitive by today's standards and the care of the mind and soul were sadly neglected, ignored and or misunderstood. Dr. Kathleen Thompson did a marvelous job helping us understand the shadowy struggles of the Civil War soldier. We were pleased to make a donation in her name to the Wounded Warrior Project.

The Campaign year has flown by and by all measures we have had a good year. First and foremost our speakers have been excellent, one and all. Let Bob McHugh know how much you appreciate all his hard work bringing these fine folks before our group. Our membership has increased this year, not by leaps and bounds, but heading close to the 100 mark. Jeff Gates keeps track of all of you. We've been at the Holiday Inn for a year and a half now. The food has been excellent and the staff extremely competent and accommodating. Tony Major is our Quartermaster and liaison with the hotel. Tony has also been our Webmaster and now Paul Bartlett is stepping up to this important post. Claire Kukielka produces an excellent newsletter each month. Jim Duffy pays the bills and keeps all our finances in order. Susan Kovacs serves as an auditor for our finances. Kay Bagenstose, Barry Arnold, and Bill Frankenfield help out at each meeting. Sherri Miller, Kim Jacobs, Dr. Gerry Sherwin, Tony Major all help with the

Book Raffle. Kay Bagenstose and Mike Cavanaugh maintain our book inventory. Joe Riggs headed up our Nominating Committee. The Reverends Landis and Berntsen begin each meeting with an appropriate invocation. Ed Oechsle and Dick Jacoby gave programs at the LV Active Life Center representing the CWRT. Many of you helped refurbish the G.A.R. Plot at Nisky Hill Cemetery in October. Many of you participated in the Falling Waters Field Trip so ably organized by Bob McHugh in April. Fifty-nine of you helped paint fences at the Eisenhower Farm also in April. In addition to our members, Bob McHugh's students, John Duffy's scouts and Pat Matthews and her folks from the Whitehall historical Society all participated. Dick Jacoby and Chuck were a big part of the planning that went into making that day a success. We co-sponsored a Meet General Grant program with the Southern Lehigh Public Library on May 1st which was well attended by community members. Our two year project working with the City of Bethlehem and Mayor Donchez to refurbish the J.K. Taylor G.A.R. Post 182 Monument ending with a wonderful ceremony at the Rose Garden on May 3rd. Over 200 students from Nitschmann Middle School were in attendance. John Rohal was an integral part of that project and Jim Duffy, Barry Arnold and Neil and Kathy Coddington all were involved as was the 153rd PA Volunteer Living History folks. Our May 6 *Americans at War Conference* was a grand success. Every speaker was excellent and we've received rave reviews from attendees. A special thanks to Mike Cavanaugh and Jeff Stocker for programming as well as Bob McHugh and Bob Ashcraft for all the technical support. Many of the folks listed above also helped make the day a success. A special thanks to Sponsors; The Holiday Inn, Kay Bagenstose, Mike and Mark Cavanaugh, Kim Jacobs, Tony Major, Bob McHugh, Kathy and Jack Minnich, Ed and Nancy Root, and Frank Whelan whose donation helped keep the admission fee as low as possible. Our Round Table will be represented at Lehigh Valley Civil War Days in Whitehall on June 17 and 18. You'll hear more about that from Neil Coddington at our June meeting.

The point of the above is twofold, 1) We've accomplished a lot this year and 2) The success was created by a wide base of members, friends and supporters. The danger of trying to list so many folks is that some will be inadvertently omitted. If that is the case please forgive me.

In a larger sense all those who attend our meetings, buy book or print raffle tickets, paint cannon or fence post are all part of this. Take a bow, you all deserve it!

We end our Campaign on June 6, a famous day in its own right, when our friend Eric Campbell travels down the Shenandoah Valley from Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park to speak about Lee's "Bad Old Man" Jubal Early and his Army.

In Memoriam

Warren "Denny" Beach (1940 - 2017)

We lost a good friend on April 27th. Warren had moved to Texas last summer to be with family where he passed at age 76. He is remembered as a kind and gentle man, the quintessential "gentleman."

Warren was born in Kankakee, IL on May 17th, 1940 and raised in Richmond, IN where he graduated from Earlham College (62") after study in Oxford, UK. He then joined the National Park Service in 1962 and served in the U.S. Army in 1963-65. He served 14 National Parks, notably Valley Forge and Washington's HQ. He was named Superintendent of the Year for 1983 and also received the Meritorious Service Award/Dept. of the Interior for 1995. He retired in 1999 as Associate Regional Director of NPS covering from Maine to VA. A Civil War scholar and student, Warren spoke to our Round Table in January 2012 on his ancestor, George P. Beach of the 36th Indiana Volunteer Infantry at Shiloh. His quiet sense of humor was evident as he wore a hat when speaking the words of his ancestor and taking it off when he returned to his own commentary. He served the CWRT of Eastern PA as a two term Brigade Commander and was also a charter Member of Hamilton Day & J. Simpson Africa Masonic Lodge(s).

About Our June 06 Speaker, Eric Campbell



Mr. Campbell has worked for the National Park Service for 31 years, at a variety of sites, including Independence National Historical Park and 24 years at Gettysburg National Military Park. He has also authored over two dozen articles and essays for scholarly publications.

He has been the chief of interpretation at Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park since 2009 where he has overseen the planning for future interpretation at the park, including the creation of ranger-lead programs, brochures, exhibits and displays for the park's new Visitor Contact Station, and lead the planning for the park's 150th anniversary commemoration activities and events in 2014.

Jubal Early's 1864 Summer Campaign in the Shenandoah Valley

Lt. Gen. Jubal Early's campaign in the summer of 1864 was one of the mostly brilliantly conducted operations during the war. Using rapid marching and deception, along with hard-hitting attacks, Early took his small independent command from Richmond, through the Shenandoah Valley and to the very gates of Washington, DC. Early's campaign covered hundreds of miles and involved no less than five battles, along with numerous skirmishes. Early's cartographer, Jedidiah Hotchkiss went so far as to claim, that Early's campaign was "by all odds the most successful expedition we have ever made into the enemy's country."

This program will provide an overview of the entirety of Early's summer operations; from his detachment from the Army of Northern Virginia in mid-June, through his invasion of Maryland to the outskirts of Washington, DC and his final operations in the Lower Valley in July and August (including the Burning of Chambersburg). Although mostly relegated to secondary importance in

the history books, Early's summer campaign not only accomplished all of his objectives, but also greatly influenced events on a strategic level that fall.

Do You **KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?**

Answers on Page 5

1. Which Confederate leader commanded all Confederate military prisons east of the Mississippi?
A) General John Winder B) Commander Dick Turner C) Commander HM Henderson D) Commander Henry Wirz
2. Who was the only person to be tried and hanged for War crimes after the Civil War?
A) General John Winder B) Commander Dick Turner C) Commander HM Henderson D) Commander Henry Wirz
3. Who oversaw the Confederate "Allegheny" troops that later became part of the Army of Northern Virginia?
A) Edward Johnson B) JEB Stuart C) Jubal Early D) Stonewall Jackson
4. What country did John Mosby act as counsel after the Civil War?
A) Japan B) Hong Kong C) China D) Burma

Fall 2016 & Spring 2017 PROGRAM REGISTRATION DETAILS

All Members and guests of the Lehigh Brigade are ordered to

Holiday Inn Conference Center Lehigh Valley in Breinigsville

7736 Adrienne Drive Breinigsville, PA 18031 Phone 610-391-1000

The deadline for accepting dinner reservations is the last Thursday, before the monthly meeting held on the first Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Please note the deadline for making dinner reservations for the June 06, 2017 meeting is Thursday, June 01, 2017.

For dinner reservations and/or information: Contact any of the following:

James Duffy – 610-253- 4549 duffysocwk@aol.com

Carol Detweiler 215-234- 4884 cdetweiler01@comcast.net

Ed Oechsle – 610-882-9228 ehoechsle@ptd.net

Please Remember To Visit Our Website: Our website is a treasure trove of up to date information about not only our Round Table and it' activities, but links to events of interest, research aids and other organizations of merit. Website: <http://www.cwrteasternpa.org/>

HEAD COUNT FOR May 2017 by James Duffy

We had 57 attendees at the May meeting; thirty-nine attended dinner and eighteen attendees walked in for the program only. **We are hoping your resolution for this year will be to attend the rest of our programs.**

ANSWERS FOR DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Quiz on page 4

1. A)
2. D)
3. A)
4. B)

Campaign Print Raffle Prizes

Civil War Roundtable Prizes for 2015 – 2016 Campaign Season

<u>Prize</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Artist</u>
Grand	<i>Jackson and His Archangels</i>	Bradley Schmehl
Second	<i>The Vicksburg Campaign</i>	Ed Bearss
Third	<i>The Gettysburg Papers</i> 2 vols	Bandy & Freeland
Fourth	<i>The Civil War - A Narrative</i> 3 vols	Shelby Foote
Fifth	Mounted Artillery Artifact from Petersburg	Barry Arnold

REMEMBER, WHEN YOU SUPPORT PRESERVATION, WE ARE ALL WINNERS!!!

**In Appreciation of Kathleen Thompson's Presentation – To the Breaking Point:
The Toll of War on the Civil War Soldier on May 02, 2017**



Kathleen Thompson was thanked by Ed Root for her great presentation on May 02, 2017. Kathleen requested a check be forwarded to Wounded Warriors to support the multitude of services they provide returning veterans.

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Book Raffle Winners for May 02, 2017



The winners of the May 2017 Book Raffle are (From left to right-, John Maly, Claire Kukielka, Lamar Hartline, Gary Weaver, Bill Urand, and Lance Nothstein.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to everyone for supporting the preservation cause.

Reminder: June 06, 2017 Installation of Officers

Slate of Elected and unelected Positions are Listed below- Those in bold were elected; all others were appointed.

Brigade Commanded - Ed Root (Past Brigade Commander)

Regimental Commander - Bob McHugh (Past Brigade Commander)

Company Commander - OPEN

Paymaster - Jim Duffy

Adjutant - Kay Bagenstose

Director - Kim Jacobs

Director - Ed Oechsle

Director - Barry Arnold - terms ends 2018

Director - Bill Frankenfield - term ends 2018

Quartermaster - Tony Major (Past Brigade Commander)

Publicity - Bob McHugh, We would like someone to take/help Bob with this position) OPEN

Website - Tony Major (We would like someone to take this position or at least help)

Newsletter - Claire Kukielka

Membership - Jeff Gates (Past Brigade Commander)

Preservation - Kim Jacobs

Photographer - Jeff Heller (Past Brigade Commander)

Past Brigade Commander - Bob Ashcraft

Librarian - Kay Bagenstose

Brigade Clerks - Ed Oechsle, Carol Detweiler, Jim Duffy

From Our Own Preservation Chair Mr. Kim Jacobs



The capture and control of America's railroads was a key strategic objective of both the Union and Confederate armies. And railroad stations often became battlefields. This was especially true in Virginia where every mile of track between Washington and Richmond was extremely valuable to both armies.

Both Union and Confederate soldiers paid a steep price in blood to protect their railroads and capture their enemy's facilities. They did so at places like Bristoe Station in 1863, and in 1864 at Trevilian Station and Reams Station. More than 7,500 Americans were killed, wounded or captured at these three battles for dominance over the Old Dominion's railways.

The rail station names Bristoe, Trevilian, and Reams are familiar to members and supporters of the Civil War Trust, as are the names George Armstrong Custer, A.P. Hill, and Wade Hampton. These three men have been indelibly linked to these hallowed locations.

According to historian Eric J. Wittenberg, George Custer made his first—last stand at Trevilian Station. In the fall of 1863 A.P. Hill badly bungled a Confederate offensive at Bristoe Station, but later made up for it by defeating the Army of the Potomac's best corps commander, Winfield Scott Hancock, at Reams Station, in August of 1864. And the cavalier Wade Hampton was integral to the two Confederate victories, as he boldly led counterattacks at both Trevilian and Reams Station.

We have already preserved more than 2,100 acres at the heart of these three battlefields. Now, the Civil War Trust is challenged to save an additional 480 acres at these three sites, protecting this hallowed ground from the ever present threat of development.

Help Save Three Virginia Stations!

480 **ACRES**
TARGETED

Donation Match : \$76-to-\$1

Our Goal: \$127,625

A Woman's Place.....

The Nancy Harts: A Female Militia in Georgia



In honor of the original Nancy Hart, a Revolutionary War Heroine, like-minded women during the American Civil War formed a militia to protect their town of LaGrange, GA

Posted on 06/06/200803/03/2014 by [Maggie MacLean](#)

From the civil war women blog

Near the beginning of the Civil War, almost all of the men of LaGrange, Georgia, enlisted in the Confederate Army, leaving the small town unprotected. Two upper-class ladies and some graduates of the LaGrange Female College decided that they should gather the women and form a female militia to help protect their community. They called themselves the *Nancy Harts* in honor of Georgia's Revolutionary War heroine, who single-handedly defended her home against a group of invading British soldiers.



Nancy Colquitt Hill Morgan had been married for only 6 months, and was only 21 years of age when her husband left for war. Mary Cade Alford Heard was 27 when her husband left, leaving her in charge of

their plantation and that of her in-laws; she managed more than 100 slaves.

Lady Soldiers:

The ladies of LaGrange formed a female militia to help protect their town. They held their first meeting at the nearby school house in May of 1861. They called on all available women to come and bring any guns or pistols they could find. Forty women responded to the call, meeting to organize at an old red schoolhouse. Nancy Morgan was elected captain; Andelia Bull, Mary Heard and Aley Smith lieutenants; Augusta Hill and M.E. Colquitt sergeants; Sally Bull, Leila Pullen and Caroline Poythress corporals; and Ella Key treasurer.

Although a few other Southern cities armed women briefly in response to local crises, LaGrange's women are considered unique, because their group would become a well-organized, disciplined, commissioned military company that would train regularly for almost three years.

Dr. Augustus Ware agreed to help the ladies drill, because he was too debilitated to enlist in the army. Clothed in their regular attire of day dresses, some in hoops, and their hats, they drilled two days a week. Some evenings the ladies would drill, followed by loud and boisterous marching through town to keep the townspeople aware of their presence. By the end of the war the women had become harpshooters and expert markswomen. Halfway through the war, LaGrange became a hospital town. Because a major railroad line connected this ostensibly safe area to the battlefields in Virginia, Tennessee, and Mississippi, every train passing through delivered wounded and dying soldiers. Each of the Nancy Harts did regular hospital duty in addition to attending to her militia and family responsibilities.

The autumn of 1864 brought to Georgia the shocking realization that the South was losing the war. After a valiant defense, Atlanta fell. Sherman then burned and looted his way to Savannah. One of his cavalry units came within 30 miles northeast of LaGrange to the city of Newnan, but it was soundly defeated there by Major General Joseph Wheeler's cavalry. Confederate General Robert E. Lee had surrendered his Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, effectively ending the Civil War. But 13,000 Union troops under Brigadier General James Wilson of the Union Military Division of the Mississippi, better known as Wilson's Raiders, were still striking at targets in Alabama and Georgia. On April 16, 1865, the LaGrange telegraph operator received an urgent request from Confederate Brigadier General Robert Tyler in nearby West Point. Federal troops were approaching the fort that guarded the railroad bridge, and he needed all able-bodied men to report immediately to help defend West Point. All the walking wounded and aged men in LaGrange gathered and rode a train to the fort. The defense of the West Point fort was

gallant, but the 300 defenders couldn't hold out long against the Union's 3,000 attackers. The defeat was troubling news for the Nancy Harts. Many had had family and loved ones at the fort. Then, retreating Confederate cavalymen brought news that a Federal column was coming up the road from West Point, and the Nancies were alerted.

Defending Home and Hearth:

On April 17, 1865, a column of Union cavalry was reported to be approaching LaGrange from the west. This unit of Wilson's cavalry corps was commanded by Colonel Oscar LaGrange. The previous day they had crossed the Chattahoochee River at West Point (18 miles away), captured Fort Tyler, a strong redoubt commanding the town, and destroyed the bridges, the rail facilities, 19 locomotives, 340 cars loaded with army supplies, and much valuable machinery. The Nancy Harts quickly assembled at the home of Mary Heard. As they were forming their ranks, several Confederate cavalymen pleaded with them to return home and lock their doors. They refused and started marching to meet the column. When they came within a few hundred yards, Lt. Nancy Morgan marched out to meet the leader, Colonel LaGrange. Nancy informed him that the women were determined to defend their families and homes. That night, despite all precautions, the Federal troops torched the local tannery, cotton warehouses, the train depot, and some buildings around the town square, and looted stores. But LaGrange's homes were spared, including Bellevue, the home of Confederate politician and former U.S. Senator Benjamin Harvey Hill – though it was routine practice to jail high-ranking Confederate officials and destroy or confiscate their property. Apparently Oscar LaGrange was returning a favor. In the spring of 1864, he had been seriously wounded and captured by Confederate troops. Since Confederate hospitals were overwhelmed in the LaGrange area, he was placed under the care of a local woman, who was Senator Hill's niece. LaGrange recovered from his wounds, was exchanged in the autumn and returned to duty to later repay the kind gesture that had been accorded him. The following morning, Colonel LaGrange marched on toward Macon, leaving behind this gracious Georgia town whose name he chanced to bear. Teary-eyed women bade farewell to their husbands and sons who had been taken as prisoners of war. But upon reaching Macon, LaGrange learned of General Lee's surrender and immediately freed his prisoners.

SOURCES:

[Battle of West Point](#)
[LaGrange's All-Female Civil War Militia](#)

