



June 2019 – Winter/Spring Campaign 41: Meeting June 04, 2019

Annual George Seligman Installation Dinner:

From the Brigade Commander: Ed Root

Michael Shaffer certainly gave us a wonderful glimpse into the life and times of Confederate cavalryman Thomas Colley. It is amazing that new material still comes to light a century and a half after the Civil War. Beyond the statistics of numbers and logistics the human element remains and is indeed a compelling story. Thanks to people like Michael we continue to learn about the people and the times that tore apart our nation.

Our partnership with the Southern Lehigh Public Library was in the spotlight on April 15 as Alisa Dupuy preformed a first-person presentation as Clara Barton. Over 70 people attended including many of our members. We also donated books which were raffled for the benefit of the library.

As reported at the May meeting our Gettysburg conservation and preservation effort on April 27 was a resounding success. Fifty volunteers consisting of Round Table members with family members and friends as well as Bob McHugh's students from Saucon Valley High School and scouts from Boy Scout Troop 786 in Whitehall painted fences and rebuilt other fencing on the Slyder Farm. Caitlin Brown, the Park Volunteer Coordinator and Ranger did a marvelous job not only explaining the ebb and flow of the battle over the land, but also the story of struggle for the Slyder family during and after those awful days.

Our 41st year of study and work to preserve America's historic treasures is drawing to a close. The George Seligman Dinner on June 4th honors the man who led a small group of history students from the wilderness of meeting in a room at the old Allentown Courthouse to the promised land of dinner meetings with wonderful speakers, field trips to places we had only read about and to the necessary and critical work of helping to save for posterity America's historic lands and collections. No matter if you've been with us for days or years, we thank you for sharing in this journey of comradeship and discovery. George's knowledge, humor and organizational skills put us on the path for our 40 plus years of learning and enjoyment of history and each other's company. George was a strong personality and could had stayed as Brigade Commander without challenge as long as he wished. He knew, however, that a flow of new leadership was and is in the best interest of our and any organization and encouraged others to step forward and take that responsibility. Our June meeting is also where we install our officers and Board members for the next Campaign. It has been my honor and pleasure to have been Brigade Commander these past three years. I know you will support Barry and his team as well!

Brigade Commander – Barry Arnold

Regimental Commander – Bob McHugh

Company Commander – Claire Kukielka

Paymaster – Jim Duffy

Adjutant – Kay Bagenstose

Directors, term ending June 2021 – Neil Coddington & Kim Jacobs

Directors, continuing, term ending June 2020 – Bill Frankenfield & Frank Whelan

Please join us on June 4th as Kenneth Serfass will attend as General U.S. Grant.

Ed Root sartilly@hotmail.com 610-417-6673

About Our June Speaker and Topic



CWRT of Eastern PA Welcomes Ken Serfass

Kenneth J. Serfass, Gunnery Sgt USMC, retired (as Ulysses S. Grant)

Gunnery Sgt Kenneth J. Serfass was born in Bethlehem, PA on June 18th, 1966. He joined the USMC in 1984 and his final tour was with the First Marine Division Band during Operation Iraqi Freedom and retired from the Marine Corps in July of 2004 to become a music teacher.

Ken WAS a civil war reenactor and now is a first-person impressionist with nearly fifty years of study of his childhood hero, US Grant. He now works as a full-time **professional living historian** portraying Ulysses S. Grant, presenting between 11 and as many as 23 appearances each month between February and November each year as his work season.

Ken began appearing publically as General Grant in 2009 while living in San Diego CA, even then speaking at events across the country and he presents in as many venues as are relevant to the life of Grant. From horseback tours and rail road excursion rides, at living history and roundtable events to public libraries on a regular basis across many eastern and southern states, and annually in Southern California at Huntington Beach's Civil War Days over Labor Day weekend, Ken is established firmly on both coasts.

He has appeared at Pamplin Park near Petersburg VA, and at several national park sites on an annual basis. In 2015 he was invited to join The Federal Generals Corps, a living history organization hosting first person impressions of many of the most well-known Union generals in the American civil war, to be their "Ulysses S. Grant." This past July he presented at Petersburg NPS for the Crater Commemoration, and the following day at City Point NPS, Grant's war time Virginia headquarters. They now have invited him back to make this an annual occurrence.

He has spoken on Grant's Vicksburg Campaign to the Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guide Association to develop broader civil war study among their guides. He is the only Grant impressionist to present his own topical programs at the General Grant National Memorial, in New York City, presenting first person public interactive addresses, as General and also as President, and has developed Junior Ranger programs for NPS, bringing America's youth closer to history.

Ken's travels and experiences and are serving to inspire two books he is writing, first to share what it's like to live the life of a great American hero and the other is historical fiction and science fiction combined around his adventures presenting living history, set in the civil war and dealing directly with US Grant's activity in Virginia in 1864.

Entertaining and educational, the spectrum of venues includes schools, all sorts of service and history clubs, as well as museums, and business groups seeking leadership training and inspiration. Ken's work has generated a great following of supporters and others who share his love of American history and the attributes of positive role models throughout our national past. Many are happy to refer him to others so they too can talk to history and share in our rich heritage.

It is with a profound honor that he tells the story of one of America's greatest military leaders and Ken takes it very seriously to reaffirm Grant's place of honor among the most respected people of our nation's history. His passion for the subject is evident in his presentation, and it is hard not to be affected by his enthusiasm for his subject and believe that you've met US Grant in living history.

May Attendance Statistics by Ed Root and Jim Duffy

Our ninth meeting of the 41st Campaign and we had 54 attendees. That included 42 for dinner and 12 walk-ins. We were glad to see all of you and would love to have you back in May.

Director, Membership Request– Jeff Gates, 610-966-5773...Please read.....

I'm hoping you all had a great few weeks since our last meeting. Our membership remained just shy of 100 this past campaign. I'm looking for your assistance in our endeavor to find new members. Bring a friend, co-worker, family member to a meeting as we try to break back into the triple digits of membership. It's that time of year again to renew your membership to the Civil War Roundtable. The Dues for the 2018-2019 Campaign have not changed and remain at \$25.00 (Full Time Student \$10.00). If you wish to avoid the line at the February Dinner Meeting, please mail in your membership form and Check to the Roundtable address. (See last page for form)

Fall 2018 & Winter/Spring 2019 PROGRAM REGISTRATION

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). For the June 04, 2019 meeting, the deadline for making dinner reservations is May 30, 2019. Please also note starting last month, Jim Duffy may be contacted again. We are so glad to have Jim back amongst the ranks although he was always in our thoughts.

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

Format of all meetings:

Sutler's Call	6:00-6:30 p.m.
Mess Call	6:30-7:30
Program	7:30 p.m.

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's activities, but links to events of interest, research aids and other organizations of merit.

A Special Thank You to Our May Speaker, Michael K. Shaffer

Bob McHugh thanks Michael K. Shaffer for his informative presentation on Thomas Wallace Colley's life during and after the Civil War. We were all spellbound by the information.



Book Winners for May Raffle Drawing



May Book winners include Frank Whelan, Lynn Glancy, Blake Barbarics, David Hohe, Neal Coddington, and Bob Ashcraft.

Do You **KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?**

A brain-stretching quiz about the historic struggle between the blue and gray

Taken from The Civil War Trivia Book by William Terdoslavich, See answers page 08

1. What rank was conferred upon Grant by Abraham Lincoln in order to make him Supreme Commander of all Union forces?
 - a. Lt General
 - b. Major General
 - c. Brigadier General
 - d. Colonel

2. How much money did Grant receive from his memoirs?
 - a. \$1,000,000.
 - b. \$450,000
 - c. \$1000
 - d. \$100 + future royalties

3. Who ran against Grant for the presidency?
 - a. General Sherman
 - b. General McClellan
 - c. Harriet Beecher Stowe
 - d. Horatio Seymour

4. What place did Grant graduate from West Point?

a. Middle of class	c. First of class
b. Last of class	d. He did not graduate

New Campaign Prizes

Civil War Roundtable Prizes for 2018 – 2019 Campaign Season

<u>Prize/Title</u>	<u>Picture</u>
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1 Franklin Mint Civil War Chess set



2 Framed Sherman Autograph



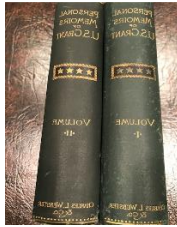
- 3 Longstreet Pocket Watch



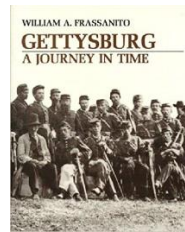
- 4 Print – “Confederate Infantry Army of Northern Virginia” – Rick Reeve (signed and numbered)



- 5 Grant’s Memoirs (Vol 1, 1885, Vol 2 1886)



- 6 Gettysburg – A Journey in Time by Bill Frassanito (Signed)



June 2019 Preservation Raffle

Please note Change in Procedure of Drawing

(Since we have such an eclectic array of prizes it is suggested that the first winner will have the pick of the six prizes and continuing until all prizes are given. If someone will not be available to attend the June meeting he or she can assign a proxy. If not, a prize will be assigned)

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

ANSWERS FOR DO YOU KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?

Quiz pages 6-7

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

REMEMBERING Battle of SEVEN PINES

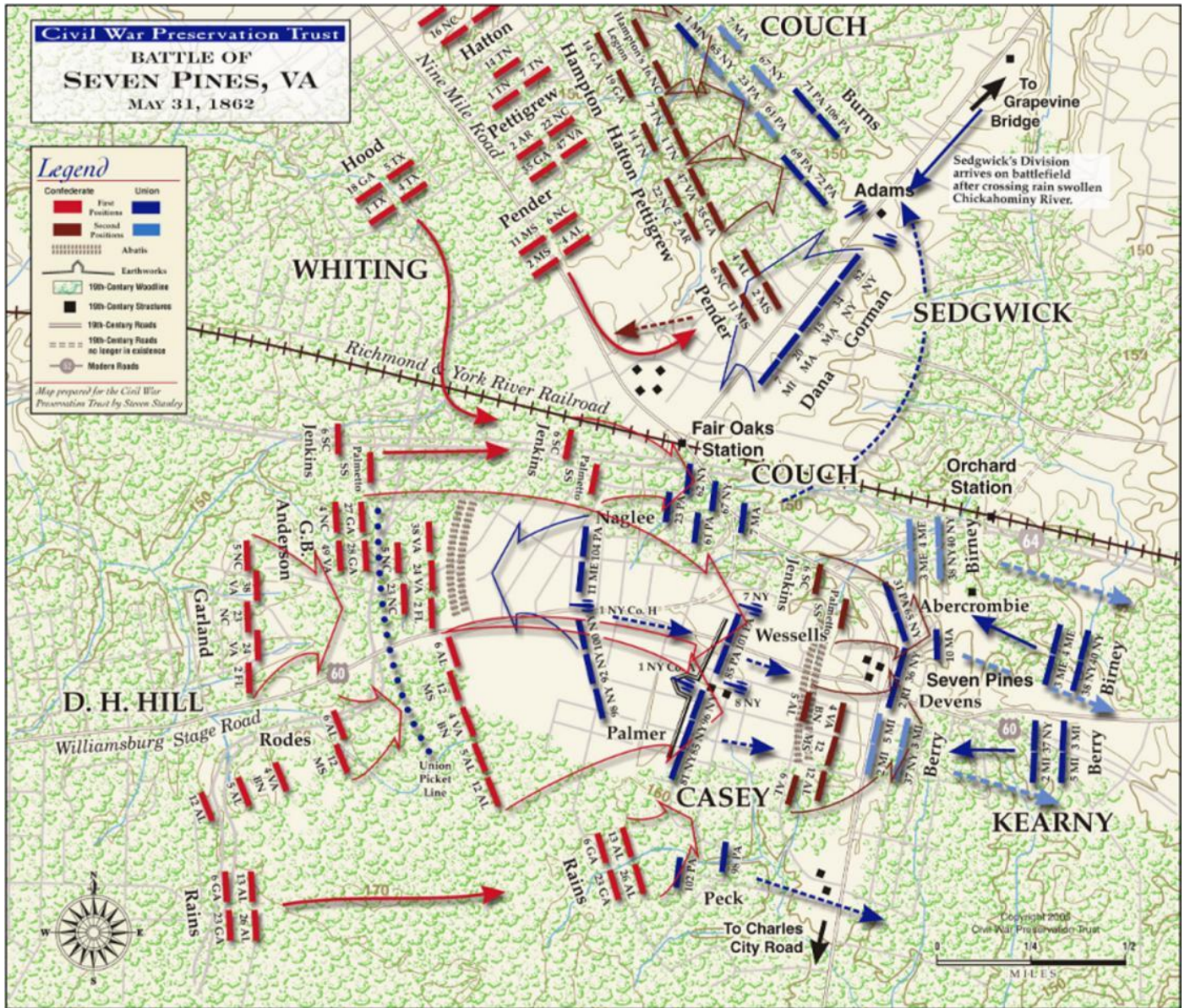
American Battlefield Trust's Summary and Map of the Battle of Seven Pines

On May 31, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston attempted to overwhelm two Federal corps that appeared isolated south of the Chickahominy River. The Confederate assaults, though not well coordinated, succeeded in driving back the IV Corps and inflicting heavy casualties. Reinforcements arrived, and both sides fed more and more troops into the action. Supported by the III Corps and Sedgwick's division of Sumner's II Corps (that crossed the rain-swollen river on Grapevine Bridge), the Federal position was finally stabilized. Gen. Johnston was seriously wounded during the action, and command of the Confederate army devolved temporarily to Maj. Gen. G.W. Smith. On June 1, the Confederates renewed their assaults against the Federals who had brought up more reinforcements but made little



headway. Both sides claimed victory. Confederate brigadier Robert H. Hatton was killed.

An engraving of Robert H. Hatton, U.S. Representative from Tennessee, 1859-1861, Confederate general, educator and lawyer, by Samuel Sartan. Tennessee States Museum; Image ID: 1743





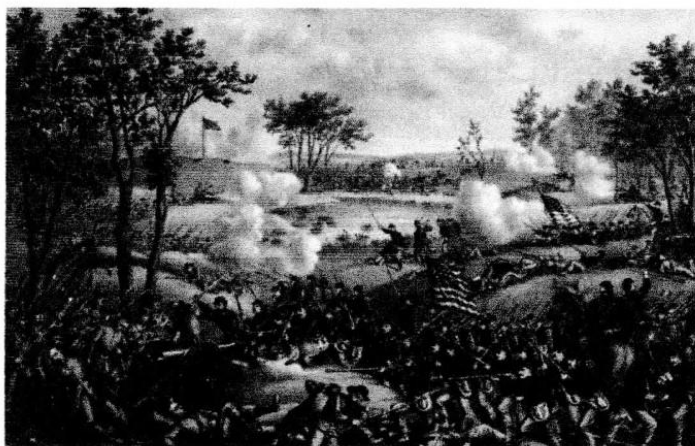
LEHIGH VALLEY CIVIL WAR DAYS

June 1 (9:00 AM to 9:00 PM) and

June 2 (9:00 AM to 1:00 PM), 2019

Rain or Shine

1864 THE WAR MARCHES ON



BATTLE OF COLD HARBOR

Brought to you by the Friends of Camp Geiger

Learn how the Civil War was fought in 1864 through battle reenactment scenarios (Cold Harbor and Fort Stedman), discussions with Living Historians and tours of the trenches. Visit the Military Camps to learn about a soldier's life and activities in camp. Visit the Historic Street to learn about other aspects of life during the Civil War. Visit the Lyceum to learn about Civil War period music and to hear lectures. Children's Activities, Infantry firing demonstrations and Saturday evening dance (period clothing not required) and concert followed by night firing.

Free Admission for Spectators

Donations accepted at the event entrance to benefit:

Pennsylvania Battle Flag Preservation &

Civil War Battlefield Preservation

Whitehall Parkway Recreational Area Church Street, Whitehall PA

For more information, directions and
registration visit our website:

WWW.friendsofcampgeiger.webs.com



REENLISTMENT REPORT

It is re-enlistment time for the 2018-2019 campaign. Again, our numbers have decreased over the past year and the Roundtable can use your help in acquiring some new recruits. If you know of anyone who has an interest in the Civil War, please pass his or her name and address along to me. I will send them a few complimentary newsletters and an introductory letter to the Round Table. Better yet, bring them to a dinner meeting.

The dues are \$25.00 for individuals, \$10.00 for full-time students. To avoid standing in line at the meeting, please fill out the form below and mail it with your check payable to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc. Thanks for your support. Jeff Gates (610) 966-5773 or jeffgates@ptd.net

Name _____ How long have you been a member? _____

Address _____ How did
you hear of this organization? _____

What is your occupation/profession? _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

Reenactor? ___ Unit _____

Please give name and unit of ancestor who fought in the Civil War _____

My major interest is: _____

Would you be willing to speak to groups on some aspect of the Civil War? _____

Would you be interested in participating in round table activities? _____

___public functions ___political action ___preservation ___living history

Dues (Please make checks payable to **CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc.**) ___ **Individual (\$25.00)** ___ **Full-Time Student (\$10.00)** ___ **Tax Deductible Donation**

Please fill out the Enlistment Form above for our next Campaign and mail FIRST CLASS to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc., P.O. Box 333 ALLENTOWN, PA 18105

Dues are payable now!