



Spring Campaign 38 May 03, 2016

**ATTENTION – ATTENTION – ATTENTION**

The CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc. has saddled up and moved to our new outpost

**PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW MEETING LOCATION EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2016**

Be prepared to muster at our new meeting location on Tuesday, May 03, 2016.

Holiday Inn Conference Center Lehigh Valley in Breinigsville

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

**Brigade Call**

**Warren Beach**

As we approach the end of the campaign year, its good time to reflect of the events and changes of the past year. The quality of our programs has been excellent. Malcolm Gross speech on the Gettysburg was great as were nearly all of the speakers.

Our new meeting room is a great improvement and the buffet style works very well. The staff is very accommodating and willing to help. All in all, I feel that we have made improvements in our "camp".

**Quips from The Civil War:**



Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest had 30 horses shot from under him and personally killed 31 men in hand-to-hand combat. "I was a horse ahead at the end," he said.

## About our May Speaker, Herb Kaufman

Herb Kaufman has been a life-long student of the Civil War era. He is a founding member of the faculty of the Civil War Institute at Manor College, and has taught adult education courses in the Civil War at a number of local universities. His courses include The Life of the Common Soldier, Civil War Medicine, and Meet the Generals. He is a well known speaker on a variety of topics relating to the era of the Civil War having presented programs to numerous civic and community groups and historical associations.

He is currently a member of the Editorial Staff of the Civil War News, writing both news and feature articles. He also been a Civil War reenactor, and has received numerous awards for his continuing work in education and support of the history of the Civil War. In the past he created and presented programs for students and adults at the Civil War Museum of Philadelphia, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the GAR Civil War Museum and Library. He is currently the treasurer of both the Delaware Valley and Old Baldy Civil War Roundtables, and is a member of numerous historical and community organizations. Mr. Kaufman possesses a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Education from Temple University.

### Herb Kaufman on “Frankly My Dear: Hollywood and the Civil War”



Herb Kaufman presents “Frankly My Dear: Hollywood and the Civil War,” a program sponsored by the Eastern PA Civil War Round Table. Discover many of the notable, interesting and more remarkable films that capture different perspectives about the Civil War. It examines the writers, novels, and the films, many of which have become iconic depictions of this historic era.



## Winter /Spring 2016 PROGRAM REGISTRATION DETAILS

All Members and guests of the Lehigh Brigade are ordered to the Holiday Inn in Breinigsville, PA which is located at 7736 Adrienne Drive. **The deadline for accepting dinner reservations is next Thursday, April 28, 2016 which is the Thursday before the monthly meeting held on the first Tuesday of the month. Please contact our staff via e mail or by phone. \*\*\* E mails are always welcome regardless of the time of day.\*\*\***

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

James Duffy – 610-253- 4549 [duffysocwk@aol.com](mailto:duffysocwk@aol.com)

Carol Detweiler 215-234- 4884 [cdetweiler01@comcast.net](mailto:cdetweiler01@comcast.net)

Ed Oechsle – 610-882-9228 [ehoechsle@ptd.net](mailto:ehoechsle@ptd.net)

### In Appreciation of Malcolm Gross' Superb Talk

Tony Major



Bob McHugh

Malcom Gross

Warren Beech

Bob McHugh Presenting Attorney Gross a plaque of appreciation along with our leader Warren Beach, Brigade Commander

## April Reflections...

We were delighted to have Malcom Gross address us once again. Forty-seven members and guests were treated to his outstanding talk on the on "The Gettysburg Address". I am confident that many came away with some new insights into Abraham Lincoln, the writing, and presentation of "The Gettysburg Address". Once again I am encouraging you to join us for dinner at our new location. Hope to see you in June, and remember, bring a friend!

## Do You **KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?**

### See Answers on Page 6

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

1. Who said "It is well that war is so terrible- we should grow too fond of it?"  
A. Robert E. Lee      B. Stonewall Jackson      C. Ulysses S. Grant      D. Abraham Lincoln
  
2. He looked more like a third-rate wagon master than a general" described what prominent Union officer?  
A. William Rosencrans      B. Philip Sheridan      C. Ulysses S Grant      D. Robert E. Lee
  
3. How old was John Wilkes booth when he assassinated Abraham Lincoln?  
A. 26      B. 29      C. 32      D. 39
  
4. What Civil War Battlefield was described by a veteran, "the Dead covered more than five acres of ground about as thickly they could be be laid?"  
A. Battle of Cold Harbor      B. Battle of Manassas      C. Pickett's Charge      D. Gettysburg





### Book Raffle Winners for April 2016



The winners of the April Book Raffle are (From left to right): Peter Angelou, Neil Coddington, Bill Frankenfield, Jerry Haas, Gerry Sherwin and Sam Parker. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to everyone for supporting the preservation cause.

## ***ANSWERS FOR THE QUIZ, DO YOUR KNOW THE CIVIL WAR?(Page 4)***

1.     A     2.     A     3.     A     4.     A

### **The Battle of Seven Pines -     Wikipedia**

May 31-June 1, 1862

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.

### **The Battle of Vicksburg -     Wikipedia**

May 18-July 04, 1863

It is one of the more remarkable campaigns of the American Civil War. For many a hard fought month, Ulysses S. Grant and his Army of the Tennessee had been trying to wrest away the strategic Confederate river fortress of Vicksburg, Mississippi. Previous, direct attempts to take this important town high above the Mississippi River were blocked by deft rebel counter moves and some of the most pernicious terrain in the entire Western theater.

In late April 1863, Grant undertook a new and bold campaign against Vicksburg and the Confederate defenders under John Pemberton. After conducting a surprise landing below Vicksburg at Bruinsburg, Mississippi, Grant's forces moved rapidly inland, pushing back the threat posed by Joseph E. Johnston's forces near Jackson. Once his rear was clear, Grant again turned his sights on Vicksburg.



Union victories at Champion Hill and Big Black Bridge weakened Pemberton's forces, leaving the Confederate chief with no alternative but to retreat to Vicksburg's defenses. The Federals assailed the Rebel stronghold on May 19 and 22, but were repulsed with such great loss that Grant determined to lay siege to

the city to avoid further loss of life. Soldiers and civilians alike endured the privations of siege warfare for 47 days before the surrender of Pemberton's forces on July 4, 1863. With the Mississippi River now firmly in Union hands, the Confederacy's fate was all but sealed.

*Note: Casualty figures include the 29,491 officers and men and surrendered by Pemberton.*

## **The Battle of Palmito Ranch - Wikipedia**

May 12-May 13, 1865

The **Battle of Palmito Ranch** is generally reckoned as the final battle of the American Civil War, since it was the last engagement between organized forces of the Union Army and Confederate States Army involving casualties. It was fought on May 12 and 13, 1865, on the banks of the Rio Grande east of Brownsville, Texas, and a few miles from the seaport of Los Brazos de Santiago (now known as Matamoros).

Union and Confederate forces in southern Texas had been observing an unofficial truce, but Union Colonel Theodore H. Barrett ordered an attack on a Confederate camp near Fort Brown, for unknown reasons. (Some claimed he wanted to see combat before the war ended.) The Union attackers captured a few prisoners, but the following day the attack was repulsed near Palmito Ranch by Col. John Salmon Ford, and it became a Confederate victory. Casualty estimates are not dependable, but Union Private John J. Williams of the 34th Indiana is believed to have been the last man killed in combat during the war. The engagement is also known as the Battle of Palmito Hill or the Battle of Palmetto Ranch. After July 27, 1864, most of the 6,500 Union troops were withdrawn from the lower Rio Grande Valley, including Brownsville, which they had occupied on November 2, 1863. The Confederates were determined to protect their remaining ports, which were essential for cotton sales to Europe, and the importation of supplies. The Mexicans across the border tended to side with the Confederates because of the lucrative smuggling trade. Early in 1865, the rival armies in south Texas honored a gentlemen's agreement, since there was no point in further hostilities between them.

Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace proposed a negotiated end of hostilities in Texas to Confederate Brig. Gen. James E. Slaughter, and met with Slaughter and his subordinate Col. Ford at Port Isabel on March 11–12, 1865. Despite Slaughter's and Ford's agreement that combat would prove tragic, their superior, Confederate Maj. Gen. John G. Walker, rejected the cease fire in a scathing exchange of letters with Wallace. Despite this, both sides honored a tacit agreement not to advance on the other without prior written notice.

A brigade of 1,900 Union troops, commanded by Col. Robert B. Jones of the 34th Indiana Veteran Volunteer Infantry, were on blockade duty at the Port of Brazos Santiago, on the mouth of the present ship channel of the Port of Brownsville. The 400-man 34th Indiana was an experienced regiment that had served in the Vicksburg Campaign and was then reorganized in December 1863 as a "Veteran" regiment, composed of veterans from several regiments whose original enlistments had expired. The 34th Indiana deployed to the Port of Los Brazos de Santiago on December 22, 1864, replacing the 91st Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which returned to New Orleans. The brigade also included the 87th and 62nd United States Colored Infantry Regiments ("United States Colored Troops", or U.S.C.T.), with a combined strength of about 1,100. Shortly after Gen. Walker rejected the armistice proposal, Col. Jones resigned from the army to return to Indiana. He was replaced in the regiment by Lt. Col. Robert G. Morrison, and at Los Brazos de Santiago by Colonel Theodore H. Barrett, commander of the 62nd U.S.C.T.

The 30-year-old Barrett had been an army officer since 1862, but he had yet to see combat. Anxious for higher rank, he volunteered for the newly raised "colored" regiments, and was appointed colonel of the 1st Missouri Colored Infantry in 1863. In March 1864, the regiment became the 62nd U.S.C.T. Barrett contracted malaria in Louisiana that summer, and while he was on convalescent leave, the 62nd was posted to Brazos Santiago. He joined it there in February 1865.



Why this final battle even took place is still debated. Soon after the battle, Barrett's detractors claimed he desired "a little battlefield glory before the war ended altogether." Others have suggested that Barrett needed horses for the 300 dismounted cavalymen in his brigade and decided to take them from his enemy. Louis J. Schuler, in his 1960 pamphlet *The last battle in the War Between the States, May 13, 1865: Confederate Force of 300 defeats 1,700 Federals near Brownsville, Texas*, asserts that Brig-Gen. Egbert B. Brown of the U.S. Volunteers had ordered the expedition to seize as contraband 2,000 bales of cotton stored in Brownsville and sell them for his own profit. However, this is impossible, as Brown was not appointed to command at Brazos Santiago until later in May.



Texas historical marker



John. J. Williams, the presumed last soldier to die in the American Civil War

## Aftermath of the Battle of Palmito Ranch

Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith officially surrendered all Confederate forces in the Trans-Mississippi Department, except those under the command of Brigadier General Chief Stand Watie, on June 2, 1865.<sup>[55]</sup> Brigadier General Stand Watie of the 1st Cherokee Mounted Rifles was the last Confederate general to surrender his forces, in Doaksville, Indian Territory on June 23, 1865. On that same day, President Andrew Johnson ended the Union blockade of the Southern states.

Many senior Confederate commanders in Texas (including Smith, Walker, Slaughter, and Ford) and many troops with their equipment fled across the border to Mexico, possibly to ally with Imperial French forces, or with Mexican forces under Benito Juárez.

The Military Division of the Southwest (after June 27 the Division of the Gulf), commanded by Maj. Gen. Phillip H. Sheridan, occupied Texas between June and August. Consisting of the IV Corps, XIII Corps, the



African-American XXV Corps, and two 4,000-man cavalry divisions commanded by Brig-Gen. Wesley Merritt and Maj-Gen. George A. Custer, it aggregated a 50,000-man force on the Gulf Coast and along the Rio Grande to pressure the French intervention in Mexico and garrison the Reconstruction Department of Texas.

In July 1865, Barrett preferred charges of disobedience of orders, neglect of duty, abandoning his colors, and conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline against Morrison for actions in the battle, resulting in the latter's court martial. Confederate Col. Ford, who had returned from Mexico at the request of Union Gen. Frederick Steele to act as parole commissioner for disbanding Confederate forces, appeared as a defense witness and assisted in absolving Morrison of responsibility for the defeat.

The following material is from first-hand and published sources. They are recounts of the role of Hispanic Confederate veterans and the treatment of black POWs in South Texas.

There were Hispanic Confederate veterans at Fort Brown in Brownsville and on the field of Palmito Ranch. Col. Santos Benavides, who was the highest ranking Hispanic in either army, led between 100 and 150 Hispanic soldiers in the Brownsville Campaign in May 1865.

"Some of the Sixty-Second Colored Regiment were also taken. They had been led to believe that if captured they would either be shot or returned to slavery. They were agreeably surprised when they were paroled and permitted to depart with the white prisoners. Several of the prisoners were from Austin and vicinity. They were assured they would be treated as prisoners of war. There was no disposition to visit upon them a mean spirit of revenge."-Colonel John Salmon Ford, May 1865.

When Colonel Ford surrendered his command following the campaign of Palmito Ranch he urged his men to honor their paroles. He insisted that "The negro had a right to vote."

On April 2, 1866, President Johnson declared the insurrection at an end, except in Texas, because of a technicality concerning incomplete formation of a new state government. He declared the insurrection at an end in Texas and throughout the United States on August 20, 1866.

## Campaign Print Raffle Prizes

### **Civil War Roundtable Prizes for 2015 – 2016 Campaign Season**

#### Grand Prize

"Battery Longstreet (Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862) – Numbered Print and Framed

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

"General Meade's Headquarters – Mrs. Lydia Leister House; Gettysburg, PA.) Ink drawing print

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

"Stonewall Jackson (2 volumes) – Lenoir Chambers

4<sup>th</sup> Prize

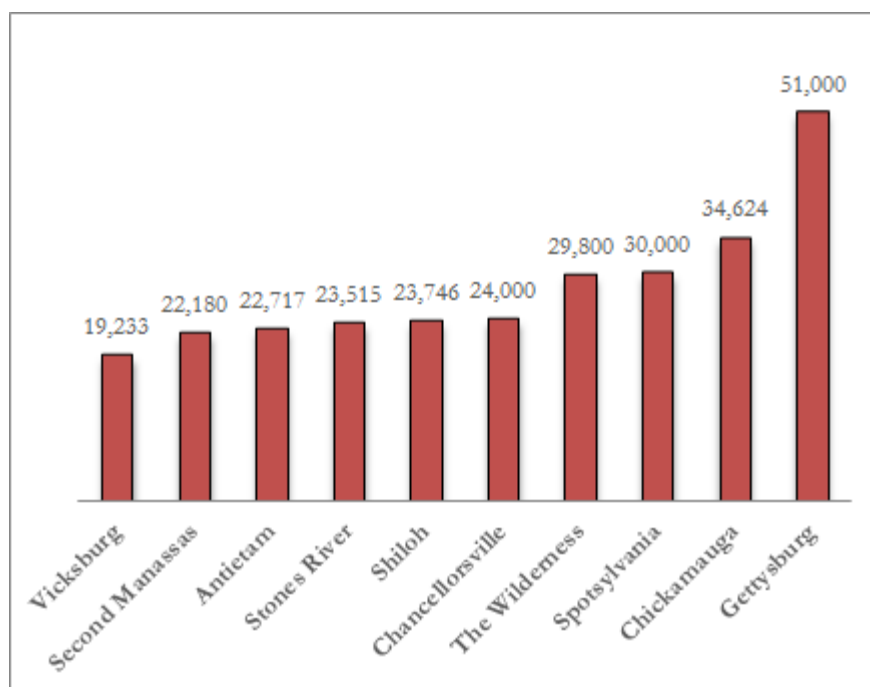
“Battle of Bull Run (collector’s edition) – William C. Davis

5<sup>th</sup> Prize

“Brawling Brass North and South – The Most Famous Quarrels of the Civil War” – Harold B. Simpson

## The Bloodiest Battles of The Civil War- Based on Casualties

<http://www.civilwar.org/education/history/faq/>



## Chancellorsville in the Civil War

<http://www.shmoop.com/civil-war/chancellorsville-battle.html>

**May 2, 1863 - May 4, 1863**

After the disaster at Fredericksburg, Burnside and his distinctive whiskers (Burnside/Sideburns) were dispatched to the western theater and boozing, blustering Joe Hooker was given command of the Union army still hovering in Virginia. Hooker spent several months rebuilding his army’s strength and morale; then he took aim at Lee’s army still camped along the Rappahannock River.

Once again the Union forces enjoyed a huge numerical advantage. Hooker had more than 130,000 men with him; Lee had less than half that. In addition, during the last week of April 1863, Hooker marched them into a relatively strong position. Marching northwest and efficiently crossing the Rappahannock River, he managed to place about 70,000 men directly at the center of the Confederate lines. But Lee did not panic at the sight of the monstrous army. Nor did he concentrate his forces, as conventional wisdom would have suggested, in order to attack the much stronger Union forces. Instead, Lee split his army. While he led about 20,000 toward the center of Hooker's lines, Stonewall Jackson led a larger force of 26,000 on a roundabout, and largely obscured march aimed at hitting Hooker's exposed right flank. It worked brilliantly. On 2 May Jackson caught the clueless Yanks by complete surprise and sent them into confused retreat. Hooker was able to hold his ground for another three days. But in the end, he was forced to return the way he came—back across the Rappahannock with whipped and embarrassed army.

It was a costly victory for the Confederacy. Stonewall Jackson, the hero of so many battles, was shot by one of his own confused sentries. And Confederate casualties almost equaled the North's (10,746 killed and wounded versus 11,169). But it was still a victory. Lee had outfoxed another Union general and the Confederate army had turned back another "invading force" roughly twice its own size.

## Battle of New Market

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ac/Cadets\\_at\\_New\\_Market.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ac/Cadets_at_New_Market.jpg)



Depiction of cadets from the Virginia Military Institute at the Battle of New Market (1864) during the American Civil War. Engraving by H. C. Edwards (signed lower right) captioned "Cadets at New Market" from a 1903 American history textbook *A School History of the United States* (available at the [Internet Archive](https://www.archive.org/details/schoolhistoryoftheunitedstates/1903)).

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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**