



CAMPAIGN 33 - SKIRMISH 3

**Tuesday November 2, 2010 – Steven J. Wright-- Author & Historian**

***The USS Dunlap (DD384) and the  
Battle of Vella Gulf***



We look to the Second World War for this month's program with author and historian Steven J. Wright. Steve, a native of Minnesota, developed a fascination with history by listening to his grandfather's stories of World War I and by exploring his father's vast library of Civil War books as a child. He majored in history at St. John's University receiving his BA in 1978 and his MA at the University of Minnesota-Duluth in 1981. Steve also has a degree in Library Science from Drexel University in Philadelphia.

Steve has worked for more than twenty-five years in the history field at such places as the Gettysburg NMP as a seasonal park ranger, a full-time ranger at Independence NHP, and the Curator of Collections at the former Civil War Library and Museum. He has authored two books on the Civil War and

contributed to four others. Steve has written over three hundred articles and book reviews for such publications as *The Surratt Courier*, *Blue and Gray Magazine*, *Civil War News*, *Civil War Times*, and *America's Civil War*.

In addition to his interest in the Civil War, Steve's other interests include World War II and the American West; subjects which he continues to research and write about extensively. These interests have led him to travel widely to remote areas of the American west and the South Pacific. Steve has twice visited the Islands of Guadalcanal and Tulagi in the Solomon Island chain.

Steve is a former librarian with the Free Library of Philadelphia. Today he is the Secretary-Treasurer of AFSCME Local 2187, District Council 47, which represents over 2,400 professional and technical employees in the City of Philadelphia.

Steve's program will tell the story of the USS *Dunlap* and the Battle of Vella Gulf. The *Dunlap* was Steve's father's ship in World War II. The Battle of Vella Gulf occurred in early August 1943, during the 'New Georgia' campaign.

Join us on Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup> for a most interesting evening. Steve will present a power point presentation highlighting this little known but very important naval battle. **Please be sure to call in your dinner reservation by Thursday October 28<sup>th</sup>.**

## Officers 2010-2011 Campaign Year:

Brigade Commander-Larry Kern  
Regimental Commander-Michael Cavanaugh  
Company Commander-Susan Kovacs  
Adjutant-Bruce Rissmiller  
Paymaster-Jack Minnich  
Board of Directors Term Ending 2012  
Mike Farris & Kim Jacobs  
Term Ending 2011-Bob Ashcraft & Kay  
Bagenstose

### **Brigade Clerks: Dinner Reservations:**

Carol Detweiler -215-234-4884

[cdetweiler01@comcast.net](mailto:cdetweiler01@comcast.net)

Jeff Stocker -----610-867-5178

[jsmw@ptd.net](mailto:jsmw@ptd.net)

Appointed Positions with Board Approval

Brigade Recruiting Officer-Jeff Gates

[jefgates@ptd.net](mailto:jefgates@ptd.net) or 610-966-5773

Newsletter Editor-Joe Riggs [jorriggs@ptd.net](mailto:jorriggs@ptd.net)

or 610-797-5225

Quartermaster-Tony Major

Webmaster-Peter Detweiler

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

Photos by: Jeff Heller

## Brigade Call: Mike Cavanaugh for Larry Kern

Our **Brigade Commander, Larry Kern**, is having some medical problems and will be out of commission for a few months. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope to welcome him back soon. Larry, a good opportunity to catch up on your reading!



Eighty six souls braved the rain and heard an excellent program by author and historian Don Ehsberger. Don went into great detail on the Pettigrew – Trimble attack at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. The attack has been pasted down in history as Pickett’s Charge. Pickett’s forces however, numbered around 5,000 men, while Pettigrew and Trimble’s forces numbered over 7,500. Don’s program gave those attending a clear view of the Confederate assault on July 3, 1863 along with a very detailed account of the Union and Confederate artillery action on that hot July day.



Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of a check for **\$25,000** to Mr. Walter Buckley, member of the Board of Trustees, of the **Civil War Preservation Trust**. This money, the remainder of the Karl Lehr bequest, will be used for the purchase of land at the Manassas battlefield. The **GREAT NEWS** is that the donation is eligible for a matching grant of ten to one! Our \$25,000 donation equals **\$250,000 for battlefield preservation!**

Company Commander Susan Kovacs made a plea to the membership to see if anyone was interested in a spring field trip in March or April 2011. The trip would be a tour of the **Manassas Battlefield** on a Saturday. The next day would include a stop the **National Museum of the Marine Corps**. At Manassas, we would visit the site of the land purchased with our gift to the CWPT from the Karl Lehr bequest.

## Cutting Trip:

Six members turned out on beautiful Saturday October 9<sup>th</sup> for our brush cutting project. Our site, **Stewart's Battery B, 4<sup>th</sup> U, S Artillery**, is now quite overgrown. Our members cleared a large area along the pathway. Thanks go to Kay Bagenstose, Mike Cavanaugh, Tony Major, Sam Parker, Gerry Sherwin, and Jeff Stocker.

## Regimental Commander's Report: Mike Cavanaugh

### 2010/2011 CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE:

#### Tuesday November 2, 2010 – STEVE WRIGHT

Author & Historian

Topic: *USS Dunlap (DD384) and the Battle of Vella Gulf (WW II)*

#### Tuesday December 7, 2010 – CHARLIE ZAHM

Music Historian & Performer

Topic: *Civil War Music*

#### Tuesday January 4, 2011 – JEFF STOCKER & ED ROOT

Authors & Historians

Topic: *The 153<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry*

#### Tuesday February 1, 2011 – WARD B. NICKISCH COL.

(Ret) US ARMY

Senior Member U. S. Delegations for POW/MIA

Recoveries

Topic: *Fallen, But Not Forgotten: The Search & Recovery of POW/MIAs from Past Wars*

#### Tuesday March 1, 2011 – DAVID W. WILLMANN CAPT

(Ret) USN

Historian & Battlefield Guide

Topic: *Staff Rides on Civil War Battlefields*

#### Tuesday April 5, 2011 – MIKE RILEY

Historian & First Person Impressions

Topic: *An Evening with General John Reynolds*

#### Tuesday May 3, 2011 – E. A. (BUD) LIVINGSTON

Author, Historian & Past President New York CWRT

Topic: *U. S. Grant and the First Year of the Civil War*

#### Tuesday June 7, 2011 – FRANK O'REILLY

Author, Historian & Battlefield Guide

Topic: *The Last Days of Robert E. Lee: From Appomattox to Lexington.*

## Visit Our Newly Designed Web Site:

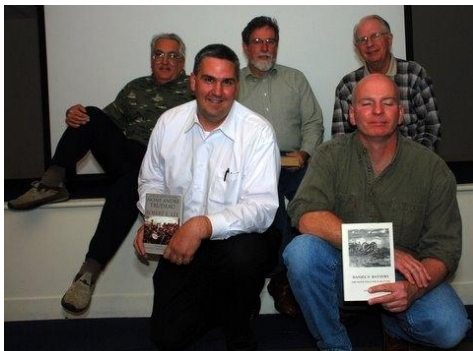
The Civil War Round Table of Eastern PA, Inc. is proud of our newly designed Website. We are at the same web address [www.cwrteasternpa.org](http://www.cwrteasternpa.org). We have redesigned it to make it easier to update, so that we can bring you more up to date resources and news. We

would love to get your feedback. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the site, or any problems using it, please let me know.

Tony Major - [wamsr@ptd.net](mailto:wamsr@ptd.net)

## Company Commander's Report: Susan Kovacs

### Book Raffle Winners



The book raffle winners for the October 2010 meeting were (front row) Paul Mack, Peter Chase, (back row) Jim Monroe, Jim Duffy and Gerry Sherwin. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to everyone for supporting the preservation cause!



## **Bethlehem Civil War Commemoration 2011 – 2012**

A Community Divided: Civil War Living History Weekend

April 16 – 17, 2011

Colonial Industrial Quarter

Bethlehem, PA

**Sponsored by**

**The Civil War Roundtable of Eastern PA**

Volunteers from the Roundtable are needed to man registration, the Roundtable's display, pass out programs and sell tickets. Members who are re-enactors are welcome to participate.

For more information, contact Ed Root at [sartilly@hotmail.com](mailto:sartilly@hotmail.com) or Neil and Kathy Coddington at [BethlehemCW150th@yahoo.com](mailto:BethlehemCW150th@yahoo.com) or (610) 837-7403.



***RE-ENLISTMENT REPORT***

It is re-enlistment time for the 2010-2011 campaign. We finished the previous campaign with 174 members. 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 mail your check payable to CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc. Thanks for your support.

Jeff Gates (610) 966-5773 or [jefgates@ptd.net](mailto:jefgates@ptd.net)

***ENLISTMENT***

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**

Mail this form to **CWRT of Eastern PA, Inc., P.O. Box 333, Allentown, PA 18105**

**Tuesday November 2, 2010 – Steven J. Wright-- Author & Historian**

***The USS Dunlap (DD384) and the  
Battle of Vella Gulf***

**The deadline for dinner reservations is Thursday, October 28, 2010. NOTE: THE BAR WILL BE OPEN.**

**Contact one of the Brigade Clerks listed below.**

Brigade Clerks: Dinner Reservations:

Carol Detweiler -215-234-4884

[cdetweiler01@comcast.net](mailto:cdetweiler01@comcast.net)

Jeff Stocke--610-867-5178

[jsmw@ptd.net](mailto:jsmw@ptd.net)

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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**