



Banner of the Blue and Gray

Newsletter of the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable Frederick, Maryland
Founded January 30, 1989

238th Meeting

January 2015

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January 2015 Meeting 7:30pm



United States Colored Troops (USCT) of Frederick County, Maryland

Mary V. Harris

Five days after the Battle of Antietam, September 17th, 1862, Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, making clear the purpose of the War. The Proclamation also set in motion the creation of the United States Colored Troop (USCT) regiments which gave African American men the chance to fight for their freedom.

More than 300 freed slaves and free blacks born in Frederick County, Maryland served in the Union Army and Navy during the Civil War.

Mary V. Harris, a Frederick County native and charter member of African American Resources-Cultural and Heritage Society, will present the history of these oft forgotten men both during and after the War. She will also provide a short history of the USCT and will discuss Black Confederate involvement in Frederick County.

As current secretary and one of African American Resources-Cultural and Heritage Society's primary researchers and presenters, Mary has presented numerous talks and displays on various aspects of Frederick County's African American history throughout the states of Maryland and Virginia. She has also researched and co-wrote a special edition for Maryland School for the Deaf's, The Maryland Bulletin- 2012 Black History Month - Beginning of a Legacy: History of the Maryland School for the Colored Deaf: 1872-1965. She also has presented a paper on the early education of colored blind children of that era.

Mary is a member of the Historical Society of Frederick County, having served two terms on the Board of Directors. She helped in cataloging the William O. Lee History Collection and prepared the "William O. Lee-Griot" traveling display.

"I have always had an interest in history. It was not until I retired that I became passionate about it."

Join the FCCWRT!

As a member of our group, you'll enjoy these benefits:

- receive the current newsletter
- receive email updates of local events related to Civil War history

Our yearly dues are:

- \$30.00 for an individual
- \$50.00 for a family up to four
- \$5.00 for out of state members and members under 16 years of age

Raffle Table Ramblings

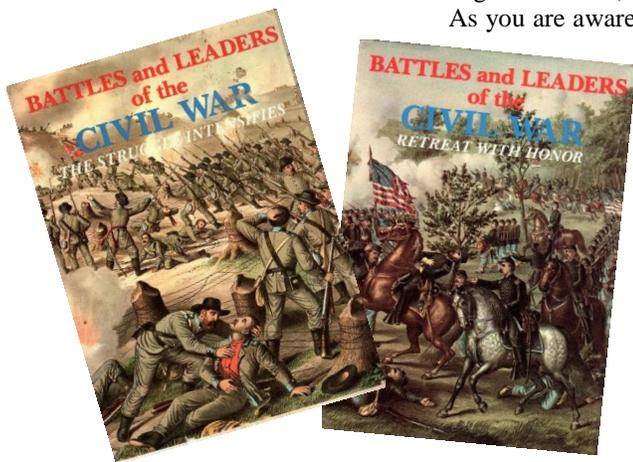
Happy New Year! Can you believe it? We are entering the final year of the Civil War Sesquicentennial and what a ride it has been! We are so fortunate to have been living so close to (if not right in the midst of) a major theater of that conflict.

As you are aware, we depend on donations of books and other items to make our Raffle Table a success every month. This month we are offering some "orphans". These are books that were originally a part of a set but have somehow escaped from the family unit and are now offered on their own. They may be just what you have been looking for to complete a find you discovered at Wonder Books.

So come to the January meeting with a new sense of adventure and discovery. The sesquicentennial may be winding down but these last 4 years have just whetted our appetites to gain further knowledge and understanding of the War of Rebellion or Northern Aggression (or whatever you choose to call it).

See you at the Raffle Table where I'm still going to be celebrating the New Year!

Kathi



Last Month's Holiday Party!

Mrs. Robert Howard & Dr. John Tole put on a wonderful Civil War Christmas musical show for us during our annual FCCWRT2014 holiday party. We learned that many of our classic holiday tunes have actually dated back to Civil War times!



Next Month's Speaker:

February 19, 2015

Speaker: George Lewis, Civil War Master Docent

Topic: Union Army General Frederick W. Lander

The Prez Says.....

Think about Park Day 2015! On March 28th. This annual hands on preservation will help battlefields and historic sites take on maintenance projects large and small. Join your neighbors and friends with paintbrushes, hammers and trash bags and keep America's hallowed ground preserved and pristine.

Participating sites select activities tailored to their individual maintenance needs. Volunteers of all ages and abilities are welcome. For more information, visit www.civilwar.org/parkday ~Jack



FCCWRT Winter Weather Policy

Sadly, winter storm season is upon us. Due to foul weather conditions, We may need to cancel our monthly meeting. If Frederick County Schools and/or the National Museum of Civil War Medicine (meeting location) announce closures for the afternoon/evening of the meeting our meeting will be cancelled. We will make every attempt to send an email notification as soon as the cancellation decision is made. Please use your best judgment in making safety your top priority.



NEW! Our very own FACEBOOK Group

If you are on Facebook, give our group a like!



<https://m.facebook.com/fccwrt>

Gary Dyson has done an amazing job with posting interesting Civil War facts and discussions.

Help us spread the word about OUR FCCWRT!!



Our MISSION

TO cultivate and preserve Frederick County's Civil War heritage and broaden the understanding of the Civil War Era and its impact on our nation.

TO explore the many facets of the Civil War from the battlefield to first-person narratives, including guest lectures by writers and historians.

TO support historical projects and activities aimed at increasing public interest and appreciation of our Civil War history, both locally and nationally.

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