



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

235th Meeting

October 2014

Volume 40, Issue 11



October Meeting 7:00PM

(Delaplaine Visual Arts Education)

Craig Symonds : P. Newman Lecture

Craig L. Symonds, award-winning Civil War author and renowned naval historian, will present the 2014 P. Newman Community Foundation Lecture, sponsored by the Historical Society of Frederick County with co-sponsors the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable and Frederick Reads.

Symonds, who penned the masterful history *The Civil War at Sea*, will discuss "The War at Sea in 1864," focusing on the often overlooked but crucial naval encounters during the momentous months from early winter through autumn of 1864.

As Sherman pushed toward Atlanta and Grant waged bloody battles in Virginia, the Union drive to control the ports and waterways of the South intensified through the year. The author will explore the rise and fall of the Confederate's innovative submarine *H.L. Hunley*, the first to sink an enemy warship in combat; the little-known Battle of Cherbourg off the coast of France that led to the sinking of the raider *CSS Alabama*, and the Battle of Mobile Bay – where Admiral Farragut led a Union flotilla through a Confederate mine field with his famous cry: "Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!" The pivotal battle was the greatest Union naval victory of the war.

Symonds is Professor Emeritus at the United States Naval Academy where he taught naval history and Civil War history for 30 years. During his distinguished career, he has authored and/or edited more than 25 books including prize-winning biographies of noteworthy Civil War commanders. His book *Lincoln and His Admirals*, heralded as a "readable tour de force," won the Lincoln Prize, the most prestigious award for Civil War history. The author expands to the 20th Century in his two recent books, *The Battle of Midway* and *Neptune: The Allied Invasion of Europe and the D-Day Landings*. Symonds' books have been frequent selections of both the Book-of-the-Month Club and the History Book Club. Among many honors, his books have won the Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Prize for Naval History and the Abraham Lincoln Book Award. During his years at the Naval Academy, he chaired the History Department from 1988 to 1992 and became the first person to earn both the Teacher of the Year and the Researcher of the Year awards. From 1994 to 1995 he served as Professor of Strategy and Policy

at the Britannia Naval College in Dartmouth, England. Symonds serves on the Executive Committee of the Lincoln Forum, and the board of Directors of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation, among numerous other organizations.

The Historical Society of Frederick County's annual P. Newman lecture series honors the civic leadership of Parsons Newman and is presented through the Parsons Newman Fund established by Mr. and Mrs. John D. Hendrickson II at The Community Foundation of Frederick County. The lecture is presented in partnership between the Historical Society of Frederick County, the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable, and Frederick Reads.

New York Times Review of Books, noted historian James McPherson has this to say about Craig Symonds "entitles him to the first rank among military historians."

What are the best military histories?

John Keegan's "The Face of Battle" is perhaps the most important military history ever written, establishing a new way of embedding armies and warfare in broader historical currents. **Craig L. Symonds's books on Civil War generals and admirals, on naval history and on World War II entitle him to first rank among military historians.** Stephen W. Sears and Gordon C. Rhea have written the best campaign and battle histories for the Civil War, while Gary W. Gallagher and Joseph T. Glatthaar have written the best studies of armies and commanders. Rick Atkinson's trilogy on the U. S. Army in North Africa and Europe in World War II is beyond compare.

Join 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

Please visit our website for our list of speakers for the 2014-2015 meetings!



Divided by Conflict, United by Compassion®

The Prez Says.....

ATTENTION All Members, We Want Your Input

Your Board is constantly trying to come up with new ideas and programs to make our meetings as interesting and as informative as possible.

What about a meeting where we had no speaker, but we had a couple of tables pulled together, put chairs all around and held a true "Roundtable " discussion on a subject or just talked about whatever came up? What about a meeting where members spoke on some subject special to them, we could have four different members each speak for fifteen minutes covering our usual one hour talk? What about a field trip led by one of our many members whom are knowledgeable in their fields?

Let me or any other Board member hear from you in the near future. ~ Jack



Ramblings from the Raffle Table

Since our October meeting is at the Delaplane on Friday the 17th for a program coordinated by several local history groups there will be no Raffle Table. But I hope to see you all at the program being given by Craig Symonds. He is a very dynamic & interesting speaker.

Please keep in mind that our Raffle Table supports the local activities of our Round Table and depends on donated books and other items for its success. We really appreciate any and all donations that come our way! Donations can be brought to the meetings or, if that is inconvenient, contact me by email corsair45@comcast.net if you would like me to pick them up, And they are tax deductible!

Thank you for making our Raffle Table a success every month. It's great!!!

~Kathi



Next Month's Speaker:

November 20, 2014

Speaker: Matthew Borowick, author, historian, and Civil War News columnist

Topic: The Court-Martial of Fitz John Porter, a Civil War Round Table Handbook

(Please note the usual start time of 7:30 at the National Civil War Medical Museum)

Looking for things to do near Frederick??

Battlefield Hikes

10/18/2014

Location: Monocacy Visitor Center | [Map](#) Time: 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM, 2:00 PM Fee Information: Free Contact Name: Barbara Justice Contact Phone Number: 301-662-3515

National Park Service rangers will conduct three hikes that will take visitors to separate areas of the battlefield highlighting the tactics and troop movements in those areas on July 9, 1864. Each hike covers a distance of less than two miles. Allow a maximum of two hours per hike. Meet at the park visitor center.

Under the Night Sky Event

10/31/14, 11/1/14

Location: Worthington house at Monocacy

On Halloween the time will be 7:30 to 10pm, on November 1 it will be 6:30 to 10:30pm. Costumes are welcome on Halloween.

The Revolution is Complete: Emancipation in Maryland

11/01/2014

Location: Thomas House Time: 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM Fee Information: Free Contact Name: Barbara Justice Contact Phone Number: 301-662-3515

In November 1864, over a year after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, more than 80,000 slaves in Maryland were finally freed. This talk by noted author Gail Stephens will explore how the efforts of Lincoln, Maryland Union commander Lew Wallace, Maryland politicians and those most affected, Maryland slaves, all combined to make this happen. For more information call 301-662-3515.



Diversity in the Civil War

European immigrants (Germans, Irish), American Indians, Asians, Hispanics, African Americans and women contributed in various degrees of service in every major theater of operations throughout the war. It was a falsehood however, that the majority of all Federal troops were foreign born, as was an oft repeated assertion of the Southern and British press of the time. Join Joe Mieczkowski for this interesting new course focusing on the ethnic diversity of soldiers fighting in the Civil War.

Total: \$43 (\$35, reg \$8)
DIS-436-D Th 6:30PM-8:30PM Oct 23 - Oct 30
J. Mieczkowski VM 4

Instructor BIO—Joe Mieczkowski, Civil War living historian and educator

Having received his Bachelor's Degree from Salem College and his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Pennsylvania State University, Joe is an Adjunct Professor for local community colleges, teaching courses in various aspects of American history and management. Joe is on the faculty of the Lincoln Leadership Institute in Gettysburg, PA. He is a Licensed Battlefield and Town Guide for the Gettysburg National Military Park, and is a Past President of the Gettysburg Civil War Roundtable. He is the current President of The Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides.



Visit <http://www.hagerstowncc.edu/coned/web-advisor>
or call 240-500-2236 for more information.

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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