



# Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

237th Meeting

December 2014

Volume 40, Issue 13

## December 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting 7:30 pm *Our Annual Holiday Party!* (National Museum of Civil War Medicine)



*Evergreen Shade*

*Acoustic Music Americana*

*Traditional and Modern*

Mrs. Robert Howard and Dr. John Tole are Evergreen Shade. Their repertoire includes American period music from colonial days to the present as well as traditional and modern Celtic, folk, country, and pop tunes. Their common interest in the songs of the Civil War brought them together. While they focus on music of the Civil War, 1812, American Revolution and Colonial eras, they also perform a wide variety of other traditional and modern acoustic and folk songs including an entire program of songs with rural/environmental themes as well as Irish/Celtic, Christmas, and country music.

Mrs. Howard is a former teacher and accountant. A native of Centreville, VA, she has been singing and performing since she was a young girl in church choirs, plays, contests, and various civic events. She has also performed with the Fauquier Community Theatre. She is a member of the Society of the Lees, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society United States Daughters of 1812, the Colonial Dames, and the American Colonists. Her family is among the First Families of Virginia. She conducts research in genealogy, especially the era of the War between the States and has participated in living history events for many years. She resides in rural Jeffersonton, VA.

Dr. Tole is a native of Washington, D.C. with Civil War roots in both New York and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia: one great, great grandfather was a Union naval officer; another was a member of the *Stonewall Brigade* in Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. He taught and conducted research in engineering at M.I.T. (where he received his doctorate) and elsewhere & has spent many years in technical endeavors Music has been an important avocation for most of his life. He has been a member of several well-known choral groups including the Chancel Choir of the (Lutheran) Church of the Reformation on Capitol Hill in Washington and the M.I.T. Choral Society. His first musical love, however, is acoustic music, which he has performed both individually and with small groups for the past 50 years. Dr. Tole also lectures on Civil War personalities and conducts research on this period of our history. He is President of the Rappahannock (County) Historical Society and project manager for the county's Civil War Trails Markers program that is erecting over 30 roadside historical markers related to the war. He resides on a Christmas tree farm in Woodville, VA.

Evergreen Shade performs at both historic and modern venues accompanying themselves on 6 and 12 string guitars, banjo, dulcimer, and a variety of percussion instruments. At events with historical themes, they wear period dress and are able to

comment extensively on the origins of each of the songs in their repertoire. Whenever possible, they also try to involve the audience, especially children, in the performances.



Contact: John Tole  
285 Rock Mills Road  
Woodville, VA 22749  
(540)-937-5850  
[john.tole@evergreenshade.com](mailto:john.tole@evergreenshade.com)  
Website: [www.evergreenshade.com](http://www.evergreenshade.com)

*Don't forget to bring a tasty treat to share with all to enjoy the holidays upon us!*

**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

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



### Raffle Table Ramblings

What's on your Wish List? Let the Raffle Table help stuff your stocking.



### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ONE AND ALL.**

Santa's Helper at the Raffle Table depends on donations of books or other related Civil War "stuff" to help raise funds for our programs and activities. Thank you for your generosity.

## ***The Prez Says.....***

Don't miss the Annual Antietam National Battlefield Illumination, daytime exhibits, and living history programs at the Pry House Field Hosp. Museum. Boy Scouts and other volunteers will be putting out 23,000 luminaries that represent each soldier who was either killed, wounded, missing, or captured after the great battle at Sharpsburg on Sept. 17,1862. The date **is Dec. 6th**, but in case of rain or high winds the back-up date is Dec.13. Call 301-432-5124 for details. ~ Jack



### Last Month's Speaker:

#### **Matthew Borowick:**

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

The Civil War had its share of heroes and its share of men to whom blame for defeat or disaster. A union defeat at Manassas in the summer of 1862 lead to criticism and a court-martial for one of the rising stars of the Army of the Potomac's high command. Great presentation!

### **Next Month's Speaker:**

January 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

Speaker: Mary V. Harris- Author, Historian

Topic: The US Colored Troops of Frederick County

## *Holiday Fun in Frederick County:*

### **Festival of Trees**

Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10am – 4pm, with evening hours until 8pm on Thursdays; Sundays, 1pm – 4pm Trees and traditions will be celebrated at the Historical Society of Frederick County. See trees decorated by local schools, nonprofits and businesses and vote for your favorite. Trees will be on view through Museums By Candlelight event on Saturday, December 13. The Museum is open Sunday, 1pm – 4pm, Tuesday through Saturday, 10am – 4pm, with evening hours until 8pm on Thursdays.

*Museum of Frederick County History  
24 E Church St.  
Frederick, MD 21701*

### **A Revolutionary Christmas**

December 5 - 28, 2014 This original premiere, written by MET company member Reiner Prochaska, tells the story of a family living on a German farm in Frederick during the Revolutionary War. When they end up taking an escaped Hessian soldier captive, the soldier helps them rediscover love, hope, forgiveness, and the meaning of Christmas. For audiences of all ages. Thur.-Sat. 8pm, 1st Sun. 7pm, 2nd & 3rd Sun. 2pm, 4th Sun 3pm.

*Maryland Ensemble Theatre  
31 West Patrick St.  
Frederick, MD 21701*

### **Christmas Tree-Lighting Ceremony at the Basilica**

December 5, 2014

Come and join the students in a ceremony to kick off the Christmas season with a St. Nicholas' feast day prayer service, Christmas carols, holiday refreshments, special holiday movie. Handmade ornaments will decorate the tree, and made available to take home with a suggested donation of \$1 per ornament.

*National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
339 S Seton Ave.  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727*

### **Holiday Desserts**

December 1 - 24, 26 - 31, 2014

Tantalize your taste buds with an array of Liganore wines, perfectly matched with a variety of desserts. Find your favorites to complete your holiday meal. Shop our Tasting Room for the perfect holiday gift. \$10.

*Liganore Winecellars  
13601 Glissans Mill Rd  
Mt. Airy, MD 21771*

Visit <http://www.visitfrederick.org> for more events in the area!

*Sharing some photos from our Gettysburg Engagement Session:*

*Last year Michael Otstot (FCCWRT Member) and Deanna Rubino (FCCWRT newsletter board member) got engaged at our very own Monocacy Battlefield. To express their interests in the Civil War and announce their engagement, it was only fitting to have pictures taken at another Civil War site- Gettysburg Battlefield. Here are a few – See if you can guess where on the battlefield they were taken:*



**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.



### 2014-2015 Board of Directors

**Jack Sheriff**, President

301-371-4148 [jbsheriff1@comcast.net](mailto:jbsheriff1@comcast.net)

**Bob Kozak**, Treasurer/ Vice President

301-644-1396 [KZAKR@aol.com](mailto:KZAKR@aol.com)

**Matt Borders**, Webmaster/ Secretary

301-639-6580 [mborders@comcast.net](mailto:mborders@comcast.net)

**Kathi Donatucci**, Raffle Table

301-874-0197 [corsair45@comcast.net](mailto:corsair45@comcast.net)

**Deanna Rubino**, Newsletter/Membership

717-983-3739 [RubinoDL@hotmail.com](mailto:RubinoDL@hotmail.com)

**Gary Dyson**, Facebook

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

**Tom Dumm**, At Large

[thomas.dumm@obg.com](mailto:thomas.dumm@obg.com)

For questions, comments or dues, contact:

**FCCWRT**

**P.O. Box 3232, Frederick MD 21705-3232**

[www.frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org](http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org)

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