



# Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

249th Meeting

March 2016

Volume 42, Issue 7

## March 17, 2016 at 7:30pm National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland



**Speaker: Matt Borders**

**Topic: From Dred Scott to  
Secession**



Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney

Matt Borders is a 2004 graduate of Michigan State University with a BA in US History and a double cognate in Museum Studies and Historic Preservation. While at MSU he was first an intern and then a Seasonal Ranger for the National Park Service at Antietam National Battlefield. Following his undergrad he went to Eastern Michigan University for his MS in Historic Preservation, with a focus in Battlefield Interpretation, which he earned in 2006. While at Eastern Michigan Matt again worked at Antietam as a Seasonal Ranger.

Upon graduation he taught for a year at Kalamazoo Valley Community College before accepting a contractor position with the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program. Moving to Maryland in 2007 with his wife Kira, Matt worked as a contract historian for the ABPP for the next four years, personally surveying over 100 different American Civil War battlefields in the Deep South and western United States. In 2011 he became a term employee of the ABPP and continued with his work as the program historian as well as additional duties related to the program's preservation grants until 2013. Over this period Matt also became involved with the Frederick County Historical Society as one of the developers of the Frederick City Civil War Walking Tours, a member of the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable and as a volunteer and Certified Battlefield Guide for Antietam National Battlefield.

Currently Matt works as the Assistant Unit Manager and historian for the Antietam and Monocacy Museum Stores. He continues to volunteer regularly, as well as give tours of Antietam, and is currently working on his first book.

Matt's presentation will be on the turbulent years leading up to the American Civil War. We'll be looking closely at the period from the infamous Dred Scott Decision to the Secession Crisis. What were the issues of the day, who were the major players? What do the writings and speeches of the period tell us about the coming of America's most defining event and what caused it to happen? We will be looking at all of this and it is hoped that you will come away with new information and perhaps new insight into this dramatic era in our nation's history.



## FCCWRT SNOW POLICY

The winter storm season is almost over but anything can fall from the sky here in March. 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 and Facebook notification as soon as the cancellation decision is made. Please use your best judgment in making safety your top priority.

## NEARBY MARCH EVENTS

### March 5- Historical Interpreters Workshop

This is an all-day seminar at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine for anyone looking to become involved in living history or interpretation with an emphasis on medicine. - See more at <http://www.heartofthecivilwar.org/events/view/226>

### March 12- Gettysburg NMP

Lecture, “The Aftermath of Pickett’s Charge: Was There a Second Wave?” at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. [nps.gov/gett](http://nps.gov/gett)

Also at the Seminary Ridge Museum, “Teaching the Confederacy” Symposium. See

<http://www.seminaryridgemuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/SymposiumInviteW2016.pdf> for more details.

### March 18- After Hours in the Carty Building

This is an evening tour at the Museum, the “most haunted building in Frederick.” Contact the Museum for tickets.

March 19- Hike, “The Irish Brigade at Antietam,” ranger-led walk at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. 1 pm. Free with park admission. [nps.gov/anti](http://nps.gov/anti)

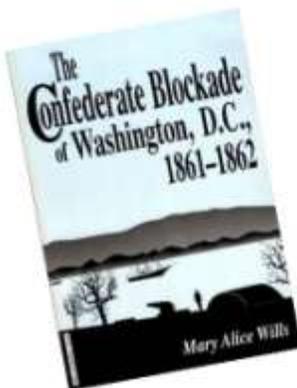
### March 26- Eighth Annual Union Civil War Medal of Honor Event

10:00 A.M., Antietam Camp # 3, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), will conduct a Civil War Medal of Honor ceremony at The Hessian Barracks, 101 Clarke Place, Frederick, MD  
Contact: Stuart D. Younkin, Jr., [syounkin@aol.com](mailto:syounkin@aol.com)

March 26-27- Battlefield Hikes through the Cornfield and West Woods at the Antietam Battlefield  
These are 1pm each day and are about two hours long. Be prepared for any type of weather.

## Ramblings from the Raffle Table

Since our meeting is on St. Patrick's Day, let us pause a moment to reflect on the Irish Brigade who fought with such tenacity through the Civil War. They suffered such losses in many campaigns that those of you who are Southern leaning can raise a glass to them as they presented proof positive of the skill of Confederate marksmanship. Actually the Irish contributed a great deal to both sides so let us remember all of them this month. My book offerings this month have nothing to do with the Irish but they offer interesting reading anyway.



At the outbreak of the Civil War the city of Washington was surrounded by slave holding states, especially on the eastern shore where Maryland (& Delaware) had large secessionist leaning populations and Virginia controlled the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Learn more about the first winter of the War and how the South taught the North about blockading in [The Confederate Blockade of Washington, D.C. 1861 – 1862](#).

Okay, this selection is fiction but it is based on the double life of Elizabeth Van Lew of Richmond, VA. Enjoy reading [Only Call Us Faithful](#) as her story is revealed through the twists and turns of Civil War espionage.



I'll be looking for all of you to come wearin' your green when you line up for your raffle tickets.



Thank you for your support, Kathi

**We are on Facebook! Please check out our page for timely updates, local events, or comments.**



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

Gary Dyson is our "face" for Facebook.

Help us spread the word about OUR FCCWRT!!

Join Facebook. Share posts with friends! You'll get more timely notice of events when you check us out on Facebook.

### **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.

### **Looking Ahead**

At our April meeting our presenter will be John Edward Murphy on the topic "The Crown of Mexico, Foreign Incursion During the Civil War." We hope to see you there on Thursday, April 21st!

### **2015-2016 Board of Directors**

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## **We're always looking for new members to join our ranks! Recruit your friends!**

For those who remembered to renew your FCCWRT membership, thank you! Your dues make it possible for us to continue to fulfill our mission. We can't continue without your support! Please ask your friends to join we can do even more!

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

You can renew your membership at our meeting or by mail. The membership form may be downloaded from our website at <http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/>.