

Banner

of the **Blue and Gray**

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

<http://frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org>



215th Meeting

October 2012

Vol. 39 Issue 2

FCCWRT SPECIAL EVENT

**EXPERIENCE ALEXANDER
GARDNER'S 1862 PHOTO EXHIBIT
Coming to Antietam October 5th**



October 1862 – A month after the Battle of Antietam, the Matthew Brady Gallery in New York City mounted an exhibit of a small group of powerful photos of dead Confederate soldiers strewn on the Battlefield, taken by photographer Alexander Gardner and his assistants in the immediate aftermath of the battle. While the viewing public had read the published accounts of the staggering number of dead and wounded, now – and for the first time – they were coming face-to-face with the reality and the human cost of War. The exhibit sent shock waves that reverberated all the way to the White House, and Lincoln moved quickly to prevent publication of the photos, a policy that exists to this day.

On the 150th anniversary of the Brady Gallery show, Gardner's photos will again be displayed as a group in a new exhibit, "Bringing the Story of War to Our Doorsteps," opening Friday, Oct. 5, at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine's Pry House Field Hospital Museum, located on the Antietam Battlefield. The original exhibit will be re-staged with prints made to the same dimensions and style of the originals. The prints are made from high definition Library of Congress digital

(Continued on Page 2, See [Gardner](#))

October Meeting

Thursday, October 18, 2012

7:30 PM

at the

**National Museum
of Civil War Medicine
48 East Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland**

Speaker: John Hoptak

**Author and Interpretive Park Ranger
at Antietam and Gettysburg**

**Subject: Antietam's Bloody Prelude:
The Battle of South Mountain**

Our Speaker

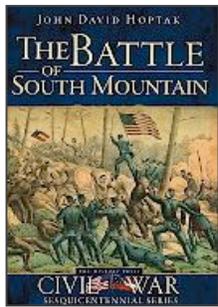
History professor, author and interpretive park ranger, John David Hoptak will present a program that will examine the Battle of South Mountain, which occurred three days before the Battle of Antietam. He will discuss the Battle and its significance in the Civil War, and specifically in the Maryland Campaign.

The Battle of South Mountain has long remained in the shadows cast by the larger and far bloodier battle fought three days later along the banks of the Antietam Creek in western Maryland. Yet South Mountain was in itself a significant battle, for it was here Gen. Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the North was met and initially repulsed. It was also the first major battle fought north of the Potomac River, and the Union victory there did much to restore confidence in the ranks, which aided them three days later at Antietam. Hoptak,



who recently published a history of South Mountain as part of the History Press' Civil War Sesquicentennial Series, will give a PowerPoint presentation outlining the importance of the Battle by placing it within the larger context of the Maryland Campaign. He will describe the actions at Fox's, Turner's, Frostown, and Crampton's gaps and the reasons why the one-day Battle of South Mountain was so meaningful.

John David Hoptak is a lifelong student of the American Civil War and currently works as an Interpretative Park Ranger at both the Antietam



National Battlefield and the Gettysburg National Military Park. He is the author of several books, including *First in Defense of the Union: The Civil War History of the First Defenders* (2004), *Our Boys Did Nobly: Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania* (2009), *Soldiers at the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam* (2009), *The Battle of South Mountain* (2011), and *Antietam: September 17, 1862* (2011).

Hoptak's history of the Battle of Gettysburg, published by the History Press as part of their Sesquicentennial Series, is scheduled for a November 2012 publication date.

In addition to his service as an Interpretative Park Ranger, Hoptak is an Adjunct Instructor at American Military University, where he teaches courses in American history, Civil War history, and Mexican-American War history.

Hoptak has earned both a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Kutztown University and a Master of Arts degree in history from Lehigh University.

Also active in the preservation and promotion of local history, he recently completed a nationwide effort to restore the 48th Pennsylvania Monument at Antietam Battlefield. Look for his blogs on the Civil War at www.48thpennsylvania.blogspot.com.

Next Month's Speaker

At our next meeting, Nov. 15, at 7:30 pm, Tom Clemens, author, professor and Antietam National Battlefield Guide, will discuss "Antietam in Their Own Words."

The Prez Sez



I recently completed two walking tour "Gems" that I can highly recommend to all, namely: Burkittsville, and Middletown. Both towns have historical churches, homes, taverns, and shops of all kinds with riveting stories of Confederates coming through in 1862 and Union pursuers quickly following. The aftermath of each battle turned each town into a hospital zone from Sept. 14, 1862 to about January 1863.

Select a crisp, sunny afternoon and walk these two towns, read the letters, listen to the stories, imagine yourself back in those fateful days. You won't be disappointed!

Jack

Gardner Exhibit (continued from Page 1)

files. We are also privileged to have on display several original Gardner photos from the collection of Robert Zeller. In addition, because the majority of Gardner's photos were taken with the stereoscopic twin-lens cameras of the early 1860s, we also will have a 3-D theater for viewing the photos.

The FCCWRT is partnering with the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Hood College and the Center for Civil War Photography to present this extraordinary event. In addition to the exhibit, we have been working with our partners and historian Roger Schwartz on a ground-breaking interpretation of how these photos transformed the history of the United States. Hood College also is launching a website, www.WarOnOurDoorsteps.net that takes the study of the effect of images of war into the future.

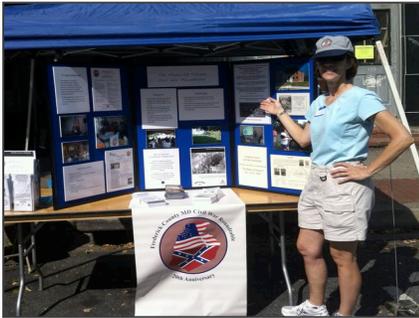
FCCWRT members can take pride in raising more than \$16,000 to stage this event. We won a highly competitive State of Maryland Heritage grant in the amount of \$7,358 and raised the remainder from



individuals, local governments, and businesses in central Maryland. The exhibit will be open daily at the Pry House Oct. 5 through Oct. 31, from 11 to 5, and weekends, Nov. 1 through Dec. 1, from 11 to 5.

This is a special event not to be missed!

At Frederick's In the Streets Festival . . .



*Membership Chair
Kathy Fullerton at
our booth on a
beautiful sunny
morning, Sept. 8,
at Frederick's
annual all-day
festival . . .*

Photos by Joanne Ivancic



*Then came
the rains . . .*

FCCWRT Membership has its rewards

Now is an exciting time to join us in commemorating the Sesquicentennial and reap the rewards of being part of the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable.

Membership Benefits:

- Outstanding programs featuring historians and authors
- Colorful monthly newsletters from September to May
- Civil War authors' personalized book signings
- Monthly raffles and silent auctions featuring exclusive Civil War collectibles
- Outreach activities in the community such as the 1864 Battle of Frederick Marker and the Gardner Photo Exhibit
- An opportunity to meet and communicate with fellow Civil War enthusiasts
- December holiday party
- Emailed announcements of upcoming Civil War Sesquicentennial-related events
- The Frederick County Civil War website, www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org.

If you have not paid your 2012-2013 FCCWRT membership dues, please bring a check to our October 20th meeting. Annual dues are \$30 for individuals; \$50 for families. And feel free to bring a friend to our meetings!

Calendar of Events

Through Oct. 31, Lee's "Lost Orders" Exhibit, Frederick, MD

150th Anniversary exhibit includes Lee's Special Orders 191, on loan from Library of Congress, and related documents and artifacts, at Monocacy National Battlefield Visitor Center. For times and information: 301-662-3515, www.nps.gov/mono/index.htm.

Oct. 4-6, Civil War Medical Conference, Frederick, MD

20th Annual Conference on Civil War Medicine. Ten lectures, tour of Antietam hospital sites & dinner. Thursday pre-conference lecture. Admission fee. Information: 301-695-1864, ext. 12, www.CivilWarMed.org.

Oct. 5-Dec. 1, Gardner Photo Exhibit, Pry House, Antietam National Battlefield, MD

Recreation of the controversial 1862 Brady Gallery exhibit of noted photographer Alexander Gardner's photos of the dead but not yet buried soldiers on the Antietam Battlefield. At the Pry House Field Hospital and Museum on the battlefield grounds. For additional information: www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org.

Oct. 11, 12, Two-day Symposium, Antietam National Battlefield, MD

"Antietam Morning – Hooker vs. Jackson Antietam Battlefield Guides 2012 Autumn Symposium., 7am-5pm. Program traces the battle from the East Woods through the Cornfield to Hagerstown Pike. \$200 includes park access, motor coach, events on Thursday and Friday lunch and dinner. For information and registration, call 866-461-5180, www.antietamguides.com.

Oct. 13, Maryland Talk, Frederick, MD

"Archeology of Lafayette Square's Union Encampment & Military Hospital" talk by Eli Pousson. At the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. 2-3. Free with Museum admission. For information, 301-695-1864, Ext. 14, www.CivilWarMed.org.

Oct. 13, 14, Maryland Steam Days, Baltimore, MD

Railfest Steam Days, B&O Railroad Museum, Sat. 10-4; Sun., 11-4. Civil War railroad exhibit, train rides, encampment, steam demonstrations. For information, 410-752-2490, www.borail.org.

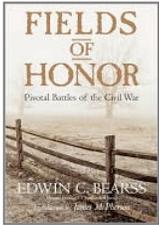
Oct. 24, Annual Maj. Jonathan Letterman Award Dinner, Frederick, MD

5th Annual Major Jonathan Letterman Medical Excellence Award Dinner, hosted by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 6pm. Keynote speaker: Author Lee Woodruff. For additional information and tickets, David Price, 301-695-1864, Ext. 25, Strategy@CivilWarMed.org, www.CivilWarMed.org.

(Continued on Page 4, See Calendar)

Ramblings from the Raffle Table

Friends, my only previous experience with the Raffle Table has been trying to locate my tickets after the meeting and breathlessly waiting to see if I



won something from the wonderful monthly offerings. Now that I am “behind the table,” I hope I can make equally fascinating selections for you, as Dottie always did. She’s a hard act to follow. There’s quite a range of items to choose from so I

hope you’ll find something to salivate over this month. Ed Bearss’ *Fields of Honor: Pivotal Battles of the Civil War* is one that should tempt you.

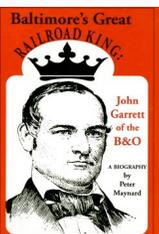
Important: Our raffle drawings will now be held at the beginning of our meetings.

This change will be less distracting to our speakers and give us more time to talk with them after their presentations. So come to the meetings early so you have a chance to get your raffle tickets and WIN. Remember, proceeds from our raffles help support educational opportunities and the Civil War Trust. Looking forward to seeing you at the raffle table on Oct. 18.

Kathi

The Bookshelf

Baltimore’s “Railroad King”: John Garrett of the B&O, by Peter Maynard. Photos, bibliography, index, 247 pp, 2012, The Brunswick Historical Press, Knoxville, MD.



Newly released, this is a fascinating biography of one of America’s original railroad moguls, who eventually became Maryland’s richest man. The tale of John Garrett’s major role in the Civil War, especially how this Southern sympathizer changed his allegiance and became a personal friend of Lincoln, should not be missed. Retired newspaper publisher Peter Maynard has given us a true slice of little-known U.S. history.

Also recommended:

The Maps of Antietam: An Atlas of the Antietam (Sharpsburg) Campaign, including the Battle of South Mountain, September 2-20, 1862, by Bradley M. Gottfried. Featuring first-rate history and maps, this is the essential reference book for Antietam and the Maryland Campaign.

Corinth 1862: Siege, Battle, Occupation, by Timothy Smith. The author thoroughly explores what happened after Shiloh, in and around the backwater of Corinth, MS, strategically sitting at a key railroad junction. With this well-executed book, the Battle of Corinth takes its rightful place in the annals of Civil War history.

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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Through May 2015, Brady’s Generals, Washington, DC
“Matthew Brady’s Photography of Union Generals,” at the National Portrait Gallery. Modern prints made from Brady’s Studio Portrait glass-plate negatives. Free admission 11:30am-7pm. Information: 202-633-8300, www.npg.si.edu.

Longterm, Railroad exhibit, Baltimore, MD
Sesquicentennial exhibit changing annually, B&O Railroad Museum. Information: 410-752-2490, www.borail.org.

Longterm, Maryland During Civil War, Baltimore, MD
Sesquicentennial exhibit at Maryland Historical Society. Artifact & programs change annually. Time tunnel, music. Information: 410-6853750, www.mdhs.org.