

# Banner

## of the **Blue and Gray**

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

<http://frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org>



221th Meeting

April 2013

Vol. 39 Issue 6



### April Meeting

Thursday, Apr. 18,  
at 7:30 PM,  
National Museum of  
Civil War Medicine,  
48 E. Patrick St.,  
Frederick, MD



Gen. Robert E Lee



Battle of  
Chancellorsville

## Our April Speaker, Marc Thompson, Historian and Chancellorsville National Battlefield Guide

### Topic: The Battle of Chancellorsville: New Perspectives

May 1-6, 2013 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Chancellorsville. Long considered by military historians as *General Robert E. Lee's Greatest Victory*, Chancellorsville also carries the distinction of being the place where Lee lost the services of his most valuable subordinate, Lieutenant General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. Given the importance of this battle, as well as the notoriety attached to many of its participants, the Chancellorsville Saga is familiar turf to most of us, offering no new insights to students of the American Civil War. Or is it? At our April meeting, Colonel Marc Thompson, USAF ret, will share some new perspectives on this iconic battle, that may change the way you look at Lee, his opponent, "Fighting Joe" Hooker and Chancellorsville itself.

Marc Thompson is a retired Air Force Colonel, with 28 years service as an intelligence officer who currently works for Booz Allen Hamilton, as a policy consultant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Directorate of Operations (J-3). He is a member of the Executive Board of the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Roundtable and has served for over 15 years as a volunteer historian/tour guide with the National Park Service at Chancellorsville Battlefield. He has addressed Civil War Roundtable organizations across the United States and led several battlefield bus tours throughout Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

### Next Month's Speaker

Our May speaker is author and historian Jay Jorgensen, who will speak on the battle in the wheat field, one of the pivotal engagements at Gettysburg. It's an apt subject for Jay, who wrote the award-winning book, Gettysburg's Bloody Wheatfield.



## The Prez Sez

Now that the weather is breaking I'm sure many will be visiting some of the battlefields in our eastern states, and that is as it should be. However, you might think more about the actual campaign in its entirety and not just the battle itself. I know from my own experience I like to follow the trails of the opposing forces from beginning to end to get an in-depth understanding of the reasons and strategies involved. A few trails in our area come to mind; the "old national road" thru Middletown up to Fox's and Turner's Gap, or the several back roads to Gettysburg or even the retreat from Gettysburg thru Fairfield, Pa and on to Fallingwater/Williamsport, Md. Give it a try.

Jack



Steve French (right) is shown with two of the FCCWRT members who purchased a copy of the book.



A selection of the items offered at the March Raffle Table. Money raised from the raffles is used to support our outreach programs-thanks to everyone who participated!

## Highlights From the March Meeting

By Vice President Phil Dean

Forty-five members and guests attended the March meeting to hear Steve French, author of a recent book "Gilmore and Mosby Train Robberies". French's presentation on his book gave insight to a little known area of Civil War action that occurred in the Harpers Ferry - Martinsburg area of West Virginia during 1864. His accounts helped bring to life both the perpetrators and victims of the robberies. Steve remained after the presentation to answer questions and sign books for the audience.

## Special Recognition

One of the guests at the March meeting traveled all the way from Halesowen, West Midlands, England to attend! Jack Sheriff, FCCWRT President, recognized Dawn Fazey for this amazing journey and presented her with a book on the Civil War as a memento of her visit. Dawn was visiting a friend in the Frederick area and saw the Round Table meeting listed in the newspaper and the two of them enjoyed the evening along with the rest of us.



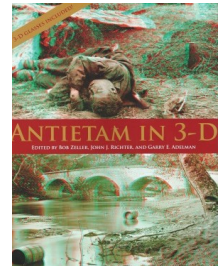
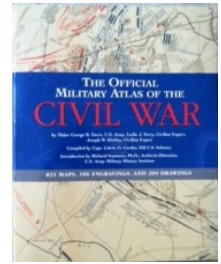
Dawn Fazey receives a Civil War memento from FCCWRT President Jack Sheriff

## Ramblings from the Raffle Table

Has everyone survived April Fool's Day? Not my favorite holiday (too gullible, I guess). There are no April Fool's books at the Raffle Table! We have some really great selections to tempt you at this month's meeting and we will be drawing the winner of the special raffle book The Untold Civil War. We are finishing off the season with another special raffle, too.

Frank Parsons has donated a beautiful *new* copy of The Official Military Atlas of the Civil War. Compiled during the post-Civil War years from the best materials created during the War it contains 821 maps, 106 engravings and 209 drawings. This tome will be offered as a *special* drawing during our April & May meetings with the drawing in May.

The regular monthly raffle table will be stocked with some great reading selections and another '*Mystery Magazines*'. One of the book selections will be Antietam in 3-D.



In case you've been out of town for the past seven months & the missed the fantastic Alexander Gardner photo exhibit, here is an opportunity to get the wonderful book (includes 3-D glasses or get out your stereoscope).

So stop by the Raffle Table and bring money  
(Confederate specie not accepted).

See you soon, Kathi

## USS Monitor Services

The chance to witness a burial at Arlington National Cemetery is rare. To witness a Civil War burial is a once in a lifetime event. 151 years after the USS Monitor sank in a storm two crewmembers of the famous ironclad ship were finally laid to rest at Arlington on March 8<sup>th</sup> with full military honors. From two horse drawn caissons to full honor guard, the navy gave them heroes' burials. A private memorial service (descendants of all Monitor crew members were invited) was held in the post chapel at Fort Myer. Then at 5:00 top Navy officers, families, and honor guard were led by a full brass band onto the knoll behind the amphitheater. Through prayers, musical selections (including 'Eternal Father' and 'Taps'), and three rifle

volleys fired, several hundred onlookers (including Civil War reenactors from at least 5 states and neighboring Arlington House) gave their last respects in what was a solemn and moving occasion.  
*Submitted by Kathi Donatucci*







## 2012-2013 Board of Directors

### 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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