

Banner

of the **Blue and Gray**

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

<http://frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org>



230th Meeting

February 2014

Vol. 40 Issue 6



February Meeting

Thursday, Feb 20, at
7:30 PM,
National Museum of
Civil War Medicine,
48 E. Patrick St.,
Frederick, MD



Henry Livermore Abbott

Our February speaker will be Becky Oakes

Topic: "An Exploration of Grief and Soldiering Through the Letters of Henry Livermore Abbott"

Our speaker is Becky Oakes, a graduate of Gettysburg College who is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Public History and 19th Century American History at West Virginia University. In the past, she has worked at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, Gettysburg National Military Park, and the Civil War Institute.

The title of Becky's talk is "To Think of the Subject Unmans Me:' An Exploration of Grief and Soldiering Through the Letters of Henry Livermore Abbott"

Henry Livermore Abbott, a young soldier from Massachusetts, was not only thrust into a difficult situation by the Civil War, but one that was incompatible with the ideals of emotional control and sentimentality expected of a nineteenth century gentleman. After the death of his beloved older brother, Abbott had to create a space in which he felt comfortable openly grieving. By coming to view his fellow soldiers as a surrogate family, he was able to adapt to impossible circumstances while still salvaging the ideological foundations of his pre-war world.

This talk promises to address a topic we do not often hear about in standard Civil War lectures.

Next Month's Speaker

In March, we will join with the Frederick Historical Society to open the 2014 sesquicentennial with a talk given jointly by Brett Spaulding of Monocacy National Battlefield and Carrie Blough of the Frederick County Historical Society. The subject is Jubal Early's campaign and its effect on the citizens of Frederick County. **Notice: Since this is a joint meeting it will be held in Trunk Hall in the Evangelical Lutheran Church on Church Street in downtown Frederick.**

The Prez Sez



In the upcoming months your Board of Directors will be considering speakers for the Fall 2014 and the Spring 2015 season.

We welcome your input and ideas for topics you think would be of interest to the roundtable.

Please forward your suggestions to me or any other officer at the e-mail addresses listed in our monthly newsletter.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Jack



At Last Month's Meeting...



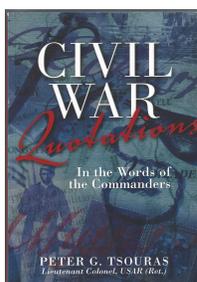
Rick Slade, who became superintendent of Monocacy National Battlefield in 2013, spoke to approximately 30 members and guests last month. Superintendent Slade discussed plans for the upcoming sesquicentennial of the battle of Monocacy in July 2014 as well as the future direction of the park. After the sesquicentennial events, expect to see more emphasis on the walking trails and natural beauty of the Park.

The Park always welcomes volunteers, both for the sesquicentennial special events as well on a more permanent basis. Several of our members already contribute their efforts and would be happy to share their experiences with you. To sign up for volunteer activities, please check out the Monocacy website at <http://www.nps.gov/mono/index.htm> or call the visitor center at 301-662-3515.

Kathy Fullerton, Membership Chair

Ramblings from the Raffle Table

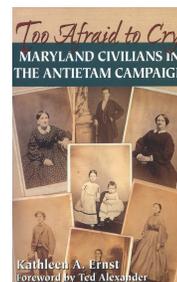
Do you have an oak paneled library in your home or do you, like most of we mortal souls, barely have room for a few bookshelves that threaten to collapse with your fine collection of Civil War reading materials. Ikea offers a solution to your problem with reasonably priced bookcases **OR consider the donation of overflow books to our Raffle!** You know that even though you think you don't need one more book, one glance at our monthly offerings has you reaching for your wallet anyway in the hopes of snagging that book on Lincoln you don't have. We welcome your gently read books!! And that makes room on the shelf for the new additions you'll win in our raffle!



From the pens of those who were there, familiar commanders and the more obscure, comes a thorough compilation of quotes that captures the tone and the mood of the War. Lt. Col. Tsouras has done all the research for you and put letters & poems all in one volume bringing you the vigor and force of the subject.

This is a must read for anyone living in this area. Kathleen Ernst puts you into the crises that you and your neighbors faced, not once but at least three times in three years as armies swept through these green hills leaving disruption of lives and destruction of crops and property.

These two are really interesting books and worthy of space on your bookshelves. So buy lots of tickets at our Raffle Table.



See you at the Raffle Table, Kathi

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.



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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