

Banner

of the **Blue and Gray**

Newsletter of the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable
Frederick, Maryland
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<http://frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org>



226th Meeting

October 2013

Vol. 40 Issue 2



October Meeting

Thursday, Oct 17, at
7:30 PM,
National Museum of
Civil War Medicine,
48 E. Patrick St.,
Frederick, MD



Our October speaker: Lieutenant Colonel (ret.) William D. Hewitt, seasonal ranger at Gettysburg National Military Park.

Topic: The "Prelude to Gettysburg"

On October 17, Bill Hewitt will present "Prelude to Gettysburg," a discussion of the events leading up to that great battle. The battle of Gettysburg conjures up a mythology of events and personalities. In this talk we will look at events leading up to the battle through the prism of military thought at the time. Described as a chance happening, the commanders of this battle, given this mythology, seem to be absent from events - nothing could be further from the truth. The discussion will focus on the numerous opportunities each commander had to change history.

Our speaker, Lieutenant Colonel William D. Hewitt served in the Army for 31 years. For almost four years, LTC Hewitt was assigned to the Center for Army Tactics at the US Army's Command and General Staff College. While there, he taught officers in the grades of captain through brigadier general the art and science of army operations. During his time at the College, he rewrote the primary tactics course for the College, and conducted several tactics seminars with senior army officers. In that capacity he was required to study the journey of tactics from before the American Revolution through Desert Storm. Only then could the curriculum be updated so students could "see into the future" and implement visionary solutions to tactical requirements. Over the course of his career, LTC Hewitt wrote 16 articles for journals and military publications and two tactics manuals. Recently, he has served for seven years as a seasonal Park Ranger for Gettysburg National Military Park. His book, *The Campaign of Gettysburg: Command Decisions* was released in 2012. Bill lives near Gettysburg with his wife, Kathy.

Next Month's Speaker

Our November 21 speaker is Frank O'Reilly, the historian at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, who will discuss "The Battle of Fredericksburg."

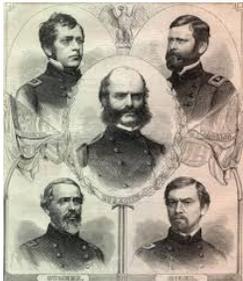
The Prez Sez



Want a short drive through Civil War country as well as beautiful foliage?

Then think: *SOUTH MOUNTAIN, SEPT. 14, 1862.*

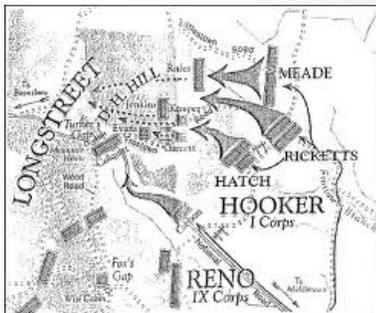
Follow Gen. Ambrose Burnside with the right wing of the Army of the Potomac (Hookers 1st corps and Gen. Reno's 9th corps) as they attack Gen. D.H. Hill's Confederate rear guard positioned at Fox's, Turner, and Frostown Gaps.



**Generals of the
Army of the Potomac**



**Army of the Potomac
Camp**



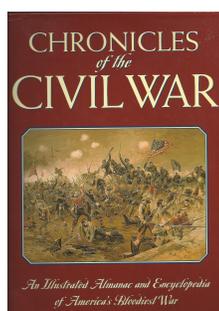
- ↪ Take rte. 40A (Old National) out of Middletown up to the crossroads of Bolivar.
- ↪ For the 9th corps: Turn left on to Bolivar Rd, turn right on to Reno Monument Rd, go up past Reno Monument and stop at Gen. Garlands marker.
 - You will be at Fox's Gap. Look for the site of Wises cabin and the infamous well. The North Carolina statue is nearby.
- ↪ Next, go East, back down Reno Monument Rd turn left on to Fox's Gap Rd continue onto rte. 40A, turn right, then left at (Bolivar) Mt. Tabor Rd.
 - This is where the 1st corps split from the 9th corps.
- ↪ Follow Mt. Tabor Rd. to Station Rd., look for graveyard on right, (no church).
 - Hooker's HQ was in the church.
- ↪ Continue on Mt. Tabor Rd. a short way to Frostown Rd on left. Frostown Rd. splits in a short distance with Dahlgren Rd.
 - Seymour and Hatches Brigades took Dahlgren Rd. and Meade's Pennsylvania Reserves took Frostown Rd. Both divisions eventually convened at Turner's Gap later in the evening with John Gibbon's "Iron Brigade" which had fought its way up the "Old National" that afternoon.

Enjoy the ride,

Jack

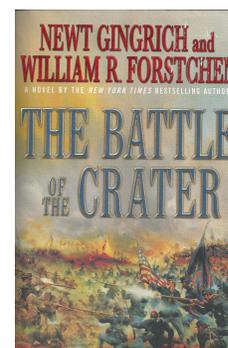
Ramblings from the Raffle Table

This may be the season of Trick or Treat but this month I have some really incredible Treats for you! We have received some wonderful books donated to the Raffle Table by Phil Dean and Frank Parsons. Making selections to feature this month has made me feel like I'm ten years old with a brand new Whitman's Sampler in front of me. Do I go for the raspberry cream or almonds, dark chocolate or milk? Stop by the Raffle Table and see where your tastes lead you.



John Bowman edited this very comprehensive Chronicles of the Civil War, a masterpiece collection of knowledge, facts, and figures but with plenty of illustrations for those of us who need visual aids. This volume will be an impressive addition to any Civil War library.

Okay, it's a novel! But reading a well researched novel like this can open you up for absorbing history like a sugar coated pill. Even Gone With the Wind taught a lot of people who had slept through American History 101 that there had been a major conflict in this country (at least near Tara). Already know about the Battle of the Crater? This book may surprise you.



So this month there are no Tricks (except maybe the **Mystery Magazines**) at the Raffle Table and I even promise you at least one book of ghost stories as a Treat.

See you at the Raffle Table, Kathi



Membership Corner

Thanks to everyone who attended last month's meeting.- 21 members and 14 visitors said goodbye to Vice President Phil Dean and heard Hilda Koontz speak on the tragedy of the Sultana. Special thanks to Deanna and Mike for helping man the registration table-they processed 20 memberships that evening. In other member news, FCCWRT manned a booth at Frederick's recent In the Street where we attracted a large number of potential new members. Finally a reminder to those who have not renewed...please remember to send in your dues or pay at the next meeting. Your dues enable us to bring in outstanding speakers and continue outreach activities.

Kathy Fullerton, Member Chair



Jim Enright and Jack Sheriff Manning the Booth!

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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