

Banner

of the **Blue and Gray**

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

<http://frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org>



213th Meeting

May 2012

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THANK YOU, DONNIE AND DOTTIE



Donnie Toms has served as FCCWRT president and a member of the Board of Directors since 2006 — and that represents a large number of monthly meetings! Under Donnie's able direction and leadership, our membership has

grown significantly. We now have an excellent meeting location and developed a source of quality speakers on various Civil War-related topics; we have gained community recognition for supporting educational activities related to the Civil War; and, we have developed our own logo. All of these achievements came about because Donnie was able to take "ideas" and "suggestions" and process them through our BoD in order to achieve the maximum contribution from each member — that's leadership!

One of those contributing BoD members is Dottie Toms. Dottie has directed the monthly book raffles that are a source of income for our educational outreach activities. Thanks to Dottie's efforts and members' participation, the FCCWRT was able to donate \$500 annually for many years to the Civil War Trust for battlefield preservation.

Dottie and Donnie also were always eager and willing to help staff our information display table at local events and were active in planning and executing our picnics and other special events. And, Board members always looked forward to the meetings at the Toms' house where we were treated to a homemade pie or cake from Dottie's kitchen.

The Toms have been members since 1999 and we're grateful for their continued participation. We thank them both for their leadership, interest, and exceptional commitment to the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable over the years.

May Meeting

HAVE A FUN SUMMER!

Thursday, May 17, 2012

7:30 PM

at the

National Museum

of Civil War Medicine

48 East Patrick Street

Frederick, Maryland 21701

Speaker: Dan Toomey

Guest Curator, B&O Railroad Museum

Subject: *Old Men in Blue and Gray:
Maryland's Civil War Veterans*

Our Speaker

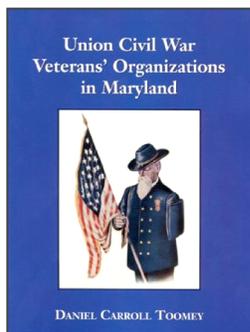
One of the leading experts on Maryland's unique Civil War history and veterans, both North and South, Daniel Carroll Toomey, will discuss the formation of national and local veterans' organizations that were active within the state. He also will delve into the history of the joint reunions of veterans at Antietam and Gettysburg, which were so important in reuniting the country and which eventually marked the end of the Veterans' Period.



Drawing upon a lifetime of study and research on the Civil War in Maryland, with special emphasis on veterans' activities, Dan's presentation will also show examples of veterans' badges, ribbons, uniforms and other memorabilia.

DON'T MISS THE STORY ON PAGE 3 ABOUT OUR SPECIAL ANTIETAM PHOTO EXHIBIT PROJECT!

His years of research on Confederate and Union veterans organizations in Maryland culminated in two books: *Maryland Line Confederate Soldiers' Home and Confederate Veterans' Organizations in Maryland* about the 1,900 men who resided in the Soldier's Home in Pikesville, and *Union Civil War Veteran's Organizations in Maryland*, which describes the surprising number of national and local veterans' organizations active in the state.



Dan is a well-known historian and author, co-author and publisher of a host of books documenting Maryland's role in the Civil War and highlighting the significant role Maryland's veterans played in the postwar era. He has won numerous awards for historical

research and exhibits including the Gettysburg National Battlefield Award in 1985, and he was the recipient of the Peterkin Award given by the National Parks Service at Fort McHenry in 2001.

A seventh-generation Marylander, Dan has served on the Maryland Military Monuments Commission and was project historian for the Maryland Memorial erected at Gettysburg in 1994. His two fondest accomplishments are writing the inscription for the Maryland Monument at Gettysburg and playing on the first-ever Howard County lacrosse team in 1964.

Dan also has lectured for numerous historical organizations including the National Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution. Currently he is Guest Curator at the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum for their five-year project entitled "The War Came by Train," which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

At last month's meeting . . .



Dennis Frye, Chief Historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, enthralled an overflow FCCWRT audience at our April 2012 meeting. He discussed his recently released book, *Harpers Ferry Under Fire*, and the fascinating nuggets of information he uncovered about Harpers Ferry during the Civil War, as part of his research.

The Prez Sez



Members and Friends, this will be my final entry to Prez Sez. I can't leave without telling you that our current FCCWRT Board is the best Board one could ask for — hard-working, dedicated to the cause, and full of ideas. There has been no problem they couldn't overcome, and no project too big for them to tackle.

With these people behind me, my presidency has been a waterslide!

Take a bow — Jim Enright (and Nancy), Bob Kozak, Jack Brennan, Jack Sheriff, Phil Dean, Jeff Arey, and my wife, Dottie.

Now I will — say Goodbye,
take off my tie,
and find a seat in the back of the room.

Donnie



CALL FOR FCCWRT VOLUNTEERS!

**Lend a helping hand
at this summer's CW events**

We are looking for volunteers for two major events this summer, part of the many Civil War Sesquicentennial activities planned for our area.

At the Maryland Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area's **First Call Weekend, Sat., June 16 and Sun., June 17 at Hagerstown City Park**, volunteers are needed to help in the parking lot and information booth, and with walking the park site to answer questions about the various activities. We also need volunteers for our FCCWRT display table. Activities will focus on the 1862 Maryland Campaign.

The second event is the annual **Rose Hill Manor Civil War Encampment Weekend, Sat., July 14 and Sun., July 15 in Frederick**. Volunteers are needed to help with our weekend-long display table and our Antietam fund-raising project.

For both events, Saturday hours are 9am- 1pm and 1-5pm; Sunday hours are 10am-1pm and 1-4pm.

If you're available, please contact FCCWRT Vice President **Phil Dean, 301-865-8202, or pd10X@comcast.net.**

FCCWRT spearheading fund raising campaign for once-in-a-lifetime exhibit

*Gardner's Photographs of the Dead at Antietam:
"Bringing the Story of War to Our Doorsteps"*

On September 17, 1862, with the smoke of battle still hanging in the air, photographer Alexander Gardner and his assistants roamed the blood-soaked fields of Antietam documenting the human cost of war.



One month later (October 1862) about 20 of these photographs were displayed in the Mathew Brady gallery in New York City. These powerful photos had an overwhelming effect on the civilians who viewed them. They brought the reality of war home to them in a graphic and personal manner, so much so that Lincoln's Administration quickly moved to prevent their publication, a policy that exists to this day.

On the 150th anniversary of the Brady Gallery show, Mr. Gardner's photos will again be displayed as a group in the Pry House on the Antietam Battlefield. The house was used as a field hospital after the battle. The exhibit will run from October 5 until December 1, 2012. In conjunction with the exhibit, a seminar will be held at Hood College on the societal impacts of the photos. A collection of essays by the speakers and other nationally recognized writers will also be published for the event.

This exhibit and seminar will honor the soldiers who gave their lives at Antietam and also give people the opportunity to experience the human price of war and its impact on every citizen.

We need your support

The FCCWRT is partnering with dedicated people from the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Hood College, and the Center for Civil War Photography to present this extraordinary event. But a dedicated effort is not enough — money is needed as well. We have submitted a grant request to the Maryland Heritage Arts Authority Grants Program in the amount of \$7,350 to help fund this event. In order to receive this grant, we must raise matching funds of at least \$5,650 by July 2012 — and we need your financial support.

FCCWRT Board Secretary Jim Enright will be contacting you this week with information on how you, as a member, can participate in bringing this unique event to life.

Calendar Highlights (May through August)

May 5, Pry House Museum Opening, Sharpsburg, MD
Season opening of Pry House Field Hospital and McClellan's Headquarters, Antietam National Battlefield. Exhibits, barn field hospital, period herb garden. For information: National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 301-416-2395, www.CivilWarMed.org.

May 12, Civil War Lecture, Frederick, MD
"The Battles of South Mountain and Antietam, and the 150th Commemorative Maryland Campaign Events. 2-3pm. Free with museum admission. For information: 301-695-1864, Ext. 14, www.CivilWarMed.org.

May 19, 26, Seminar Series, Gettysburg, PA
"1862: All Hell Breaks Loose" lecture & field program by Joe Mieczkowski, Gettysburg National Military Park. Information, 717-339-2161, www.gettysburgfoundation.org.

May 23, 150th Front Royal Tour, Front Royal, VA
Battle of Front Royal car caravan tour from Warren Heritage Society, Front Royal. Orientation: 1pm; tour: 2-4. \$10 fee. For information and tickets: 540-636-0702, www.warrenheritagesociety.org.

June 2, Memorial Ceremony, Baltimore, MD
Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony, Loudon Park Cemetery, 10:30 am. Troops, speakers, rifle salute, music, dedication of 57 new grave markers. Information: 410-296-9235, www.mdscv.org/1388/adopt-a-confederate.

June 9, Civil War Lecture, Frederick, MD
"The Medicine of Andersonville Prison" by Joseph Berman, M.D. National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 2-3pm. Free with admission. Information: 301-695-1864, www.CivilWarMed.org.

June 16-17, Civil War Expo, Hagerstown, MD
"First Call Weekend," Hagerstown City Park, Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. Camps, exhibits, tacticals, torchlight tours, speakers, music, living history. Troops needed. For information: 301-739-8577, ext. 116 or ext. 183, www.heartofthecivilwar.org/first-call.

July 5, 12, 19, 26, Lecture series, Frederick, MD
4th Annual Summer Evening Lecture Series, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 7:30-8:30 PM. Topics include Maj. Jonathan Letterman, MD, Maryland Campaign, and Field Hospitals in the Middletown Valley, among others. Further information: 301-695-1864, ext. 14, www.CivilWarMed.org.

July 14, 15 Civil War Encampment, Frederick, MD
8th Annual Civil War Encampment at Rose Hill Manor Park. Sat. 10-4; Sun. 10-3. Battles, 2pm each day. Demonstrations, children's area, manor tours, artillery, cavalry, infantry. Free if register by May 31. Admission is \$3. For information: 301-600-1646, www.rosehillmuseum.com.

(Continued on Page 4, See **Calendar**)

Ramblings from the Raffle Table



Friends, this month our 50-Cent Raffle offers, as always, a selection of varied items and books; among them *The Widow of the South* by Robert Hicks. Come and visit the Raffle Table before the meeting and have a look (you never know what you will find). Lay down your money and join the fun!

This is my final "Ramblings from the Raffle Table" and I must again thank all of you members and friends of the Roundtable for your cooperation, your very generous donations, and your active participation in buying Raffles at each meeting. I do hope you will continue.

It's been great working with my friends on the Board (wonderfully talented men all, and actually quite a bit of fun to be with)!

I wish all of you happiness and good luck, in life in general, and most certainly — at the Raffle Table!

Dottie

Calendar (continued from Page 3)

Aug. 4, 5, Signaling, talks, Sharpsburg, MD

Signal Corps Weekend at Pry House Field Hospital & General McClellan's Headquarters, Antietam National Battlefield, 11-5. Live signaling, talks. Information, 301-416-2395; www.CivilWarMed.org.

Aug. 3-5, Battle Reenactment, Middletown, VA

Sesquicentennial reenactment, "The Battle of Second Manassas," Cedar Creek Battlefield near Middletown. Fee. Information: www.cedarcreekbattlefield.org.

Aug. 4, 5, Living history, Boonsboro, MD

"Confederates Occupy Turner's Gap," Dahlgren Chapel, Alt. Route 40 on South Mountain. Camps & demonstrations. Sat. 10-4; Sun. 10-3. Free. 301-791-4767.

Aug. 13, Lecture, Frederick, MD

"Frederick, One Vast Hospital" by Terry Reimer, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 2-3. Free with museum admission. 301-695-1864, ext. 14, www.CivilWarMed.org.

Aug 11-12, Living History, Sharpsburg, MD

"Before the Storm," focuses on the civilians in the Sharpsburg area prior to the Battle of Antietam. Programs on the battlefield in Sharpsburg and South Mountain. Artillery demonstrations. Information: www.nps.gov/anti.

(Editor's note: For more information about the many Civil War events scheduled this summer, please check www.civilwarnews.com/events/calendar.php, and/or www.civilwartraveler.com/events/.)

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.

2011-2012 Board of Directors

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Communications, dues, questions or comments for the Roundtable should be directed to:

FCCWRT

P.O. Box 3232, Frederick MD 21705-3232

www.frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org

Annual Election of FCCWRT Officers

We will hold our annual election of officers at our last meeting of the season on May 17.

The following Board member is completing his second year of service and is up for re-election:

Phil Dean, Vice President

Three new Board members are up for election: **Matt Borders, Kathy Fullerton, and Gail Stephens.**

The 2012-2013 season begins with our first meeting On Thursday, Sept. 20, at 7:30PM. Check our website for regular updates on the exciting speakers and events planned for the coming season as we enter the third year of the Sesquicentennial.