



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

259th Meeting

April 2017

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April 20, 2017, 7:00 PM National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland



**Speaker: Nancy
Householder**

**Topic: Monuments of
Gettysburg**

The monuments at Gettysburg were mostly put up by the veterans themselves. They have two purposes, to honor comrades who died in battle, and to remember what they did. They have many special symbols and stories that go with them and these will be explained.

Nancy Householder is currently the Vice President of the Pipe Creek Civil War Round Table and former President. She has been studying to be a Licensed Battlefield Guide for the Gettysburg National Military Park, and is a docent at the Union Mills Homestead for more than 25 years. She has also been a guide for Ghosts of Gettysburg Candlelight Walking Tours for the past 12 years.





In Case You Missed It.....

At our March meeting we were treated with Dr. Thomas Clemens' presentation of "Shepherdstown Ford and the End of the Maryland Campaign," volume three of the Ezra Carman manuscript. As a review, Dr. Clemens explained Carman's role in creating the Antietam Battlefield as we know it today.

According to Carman, both army commanders (Lee and McClellan) had intentions to continue the Maryland Campaign after the bloodshed at Antietam, but the aftermath of the Shepherdstown

battle really determined the end of the campaign. Lincoln realized that McClellan would do no more to destroy Lee's Army and Lee knew that his army was too weak to continue the offensive. Still, McClellan does not appear to be the incompetent slacker that history has portrayed him to be and that there truly were problems of supply that hindered his ability to move aggressively.

As with so many of the often written about battles of the Civil War there is usually more to the story than we know. Politics, logistics, and other factors affected the final outcome although these may not have been obvious at the time. Antietam and the Maryland Campaign was no exception. Clemens' third volume sheds great light on these as well as provides biographical information on some 1500 of those mentioned in Carman's manuscripts. Clemens' books were available for sale at our meeting but you can still get them through Amazon, the Antietam Battlefield bookstore, and other venues.

FCCWRT SNOW POLICY

We should be finished with the winter season but April can sometimes surprise us. 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 and Facebook notification as soon as the cancellation decision is made. Please use your best judgment in making safety your top priority.

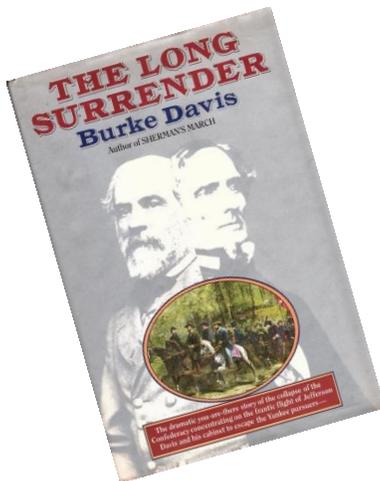
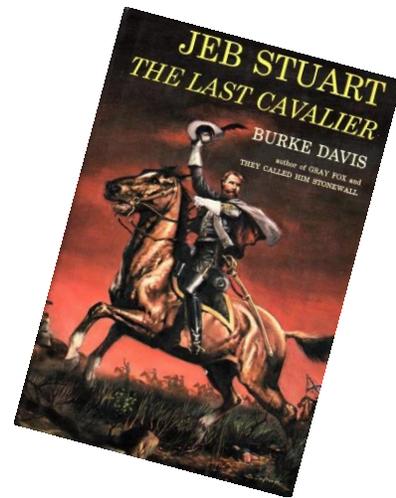


Ramblings from the Raffle Table



April showers (the ones that bring May flowers) are the perfect excuse to curl up with a good book. And so this month I am featuring two selections by Burke Davis. Davis was a very prolific writer and his historical works capture the imagination and place the reader in the midst of the action. With Civil War buffs he is a popular writer. I know that because almost all of his writings have crossed my path as donations and show signs of respectful reads: there are no dog-eared pages or broken spines. So from the author of The Gray Fox and They Called Him Stonewall.....

JEB Stuart, the Last Cavalier brings to life the larger than life JEB Stuart. The gallant and dashing cavalier that rode circles around every Yankee he ever met. And the debonair black plumed gentleman who dazzled every belle he ever met. Who else could inspire the song “If you want to have a good time join the cavalry, join the cavalry, join the cavalry.....” You will be at his side from West Point, through the western frontier, to his fateful devotion to Virginia.



The Long Surrender brings to light the heartbreak of the fall of the Confederacy and the desperation of the days and years that followed it. It was a time of personal crisis for Davis and his Cabinet as the final curtain fell on the dream of an independent nation. While some escaped into exile, Jeff Davis becomes a Martyr of the Lost Cause, his name still whispered with reverence, his White House preserved in Richmond.

May the weather cooperate and give you time to savor the treasures we offer to you each month. Thank you for your contributions & participation every month.

Kathi



NEARBY APRIL EVENTS

April 1- Corbit's Charge Dance, 7pm, Westminster City Recreation and Parks Family center, 11 Longwell Avenue, Westminster, MD. <http://pipecreekcivilwarroundtable.weebly.com/>

April 1- Clara Barton, An American Life, 2:30 PM, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick, MD.

April 1- Bus tour, "Defending the Capital," 8 am-6:15 pm. A Smithsonian tour with Ed Bearss. Leaves from 550 C St SW, Washington. \$175. smithsonianassociates.org (click Civil War).

April 8- Bus tour, "Three Key Sites – Harpers Ferry, Antietam and Gettysburg," 8 am-7:30 pm. A Smithsonian tour leaves from 550 C St SW, Washington. \$180. smithsonianassociates.org (click Civil War).

April 27-30- Bus and walking tours, "The Maryland Campaign," with Ed Bearss and Tom Clemens. Covers Harpers Ferry, South Mountain and Antietam. Based in Hagerstown. \$550 (does not include lodging). civilwartours.org

April 20 and 27- Carroll Community College, Programs on the "Was Lee Right to Attack the Flanks" and "The Defense of McPherson's Ridge." (See college website for details and costs.)

For Gettysburg events, go to nps.gov/gett/planyourvisit/interpretation.htm. There is something happening there just about every weekend, from lectures to battlefield hikes. As the temperatures rise, so do the crowds!

This list is by no means all inclusive. Warmer weather means more events, and you can find more at these and other sites: <http://www.civilwarnews.com/>, <http://www.civilwar.com/>, and <http://www.civilwartraveler.com/events/>. I use the latter site heavily. You can always use our Facebook page to connect with members taking their own tours during the month. What better way to explore local battlefields and historic sites than to go with your fellow members!

We are on Facebook! Please check out our page for timely updates, local events, or comments. Please read and share our posts!



<https://m.facebook.com/fccwrt>

Gary Dyson is our "face" for Facebook.

Help us spread the word about OUR FCCWRT!! We have 130 "likes" to date. This number fluctuates at times, sometimes for no apparent reason and sometimes when certain topics are mentioned.

Join Facebook. Share posts with friends! You'll get more timely notice of events when you check us out on Facebook. Post things you'd like to share!

Our 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.

Looking Ahead

While our speaker list for this season is set, please let us know of any topics or speakers that you'd like to hear about. We hope to see you at our next meeting and last meeting of the season, May 18th!

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While our membership drive is unending it is essentially over for this season. Members that have already renewed have sustained us through this season. At present we don't know what format we will have for next year. We're always looking for new members to join our ranks though as we do not intend to go away.

For those who remembered to renew your FCCWRT membership, thank you! Your dues make it possible for us to continue to fulfill our mission. We can't continue without your support! Please ask your friends to join so we can do even more!

As a member of our group, you'll enjoy these benefits:

- receive the current newsletter
- receive email updates of local events related to Civil War history
- always have a place to be on the third Thursday of the month

Our yearly dues are:

- \$30.00 for an individual
- \$50.00 for a family up to four
- \$5.00 for out of state members and members under 16 years of age