



# Banner of the Blue and Gray

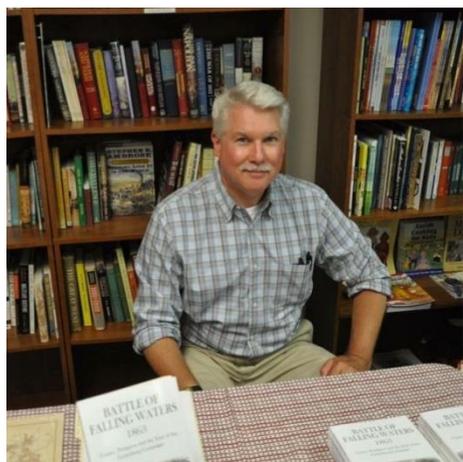
Newsletter of the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable Frederick, Maryland  
Founded January 30, 1989

262nd Meeting

October 2017

Volume 44, Issue 2

## October 19, 2017, 7:00 PM National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland



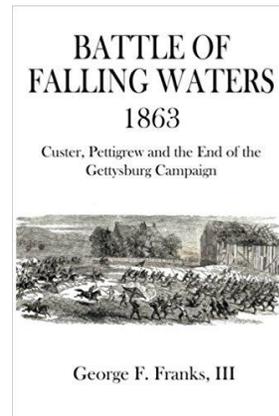
**Speaker: George Franks**

**Topic: "The Life and Death of James Johnston Pettigrew"**

Most people only know Johnston Pettigrew from the "Pickett-Pettigrew-Trimble Charge" at Gettysburg or from his appearance in the movie about the battle. Pettigrew was considered the "most brilliant man in the South". A scholar, linguist, author, legislator, military advisor and Confederate officer, Pettigrew was a complex man whose contributions are not widely recognized today. George Franks uncovered many stories about the little-known Confederate general during his study of the July 14, 1863 Battle of Falling Waters in Maryland - where Pettigrew was mortally wounded. Franks lives on the Falling Waters Battlefield.

George F. Franks, III is the President of Franks Consulting Group, a management consulting firm, and owner of Geo. Franks, Hatter, a global e-commerce business. He is a former technology executive with extensive international experience. George is the founder and President of the Battle of Falling Waters 1863 Foundation, Inc. and a member of the Board of Directors of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. He is a Commissioner on the C&O Canal Federal Advisory Commission. George served as an officer and governor of the Company of Military Historians and as President of the organization's Chesapeake Chapter. He was President of the Capitol Hill Civil War Round Table in Washington, D.C. and is an active member of Hagerstown Civil War Round Table, Save Historic Antietam Foundation and the Civil War Trust.

George is the author of *Battle of Falling Waters 1863: Custer, Pettigrew and the End of the Gettysburg Campaign* and lives in the 1830 Daniel Donnelly House on the battlefield - less than a mile from the C & O Canal. George was awarded the 2015 John Frye Historical Preservation Award by the Washington County (Maryland) Commissioners. He studied history at the U.S. Naval Academy and the University of Pittsburgh where he was graduated Magna cum Laude. AT&T selected George for the executive programs in marketing and international business at University of Virginia Darden School and Emory University Goizueta Business School. There will be books available for purchase following the presentation.



## In Case You Missed It.....

At our September meeting, Mary Mannix provided those in attendance with some useful and



mostly free sources for learning about our Civil War ancestors. Some of the tips given hold true for any genealogical study: write down what you know, talk with family (especially the older ones), search multiple sources, and preserve and share what you find. Available sources (especially through your local library) include census reports as far back as 1840, the National Archives and Records Administration, obituaries, old newspaper references, headstone applications, state archives and other sites that are available online, although most genealogical records are still to be found only in local record depositories. To find your Civil War ancestor you need to start, and you can do this locally at the Maryland Room at

the C. Burr Artz Frederick County Library at 110 East Patrick Street in Frederick.



# New Board Member Elections

As of our September meeting the following board members were confirmed with these positions:

Matt Borders, President/ Webmaster

Kathi Donatucci, Vice President

Bob Kozak, Treasurer

Gary Dyson, Facebook/ Newsletter/ Secretary

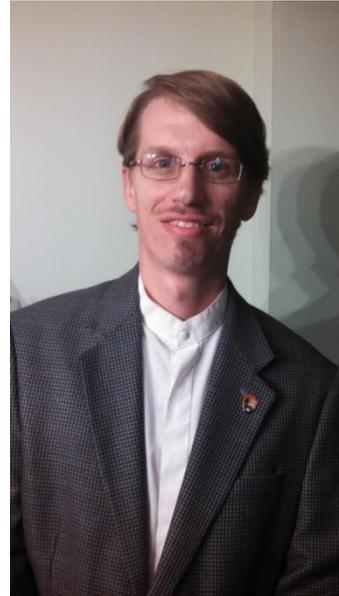
Lucy Tannozzini, Book Raffle

Joe Collins, At Large

Jack Sheriff, At Large

Tom Dumm, At Large

Todd Morris, At Large



President, Matt Borders

## Prez Sez

As this is my first time writing to you as President of the Frederick County Civil War Round Table, I just want to take a moment to once again thank former president Jack Sheriff for his years of dedication to the round table and for agreeing to stay on as a board member. It is a great honor to be at the head of this round table, an organization that has been around now for almost 30 years!

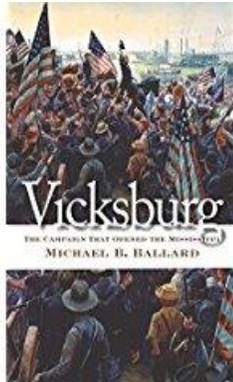
I look forward to working with the board to continue to provide the best speakers possible for our round table, but in doing so we need your help as well. We get a lot of applications for speakers in the Spring and Fall and we do the best we can to develop a roster that covers a wide range of Civil War era topics. If you have something you want to know more about or think we have not touched on a particular subject in quite some time with our speakers, let us know! Also, on occasion, we've had a speaker that is not the strongest when in front of an audience, which happens, but if you have a topic or speaker you really did not like, let us know about that too.

Finally, one of the big pushes I hope to have this year is getting our membership up. This is something we've been harping on for a while now, but it's true, the bigger we are as an organization, the bigger the names we can attract to Frederick. I hope to be able to partner with other great Frederick organizations, such as Frederick Tourism and Heritage Frederick to bring in big names like we have in the past, but it helps to get those partners on board when we show we can fill the chairs. So come on out to the round table, bring your friends and join us!

~ Matt Borders



We have some excellent books for our October book raffle. Below are highlights of two of them:



**Vicksburg, The Campaign That Opened the Mississippi, Michael B. Ballard:** Michael Ballard provides a concise yet thorough study of the 1863 battle that cut off a crucial river port and rail depot for the South and split the Confederate nation, providing a turning point in the Civil War. Ballard's astute analysis and "deft interweaving of military decision making, campaign strategy and battle tactics, political and economic factors, and the many challenges confronting Southern civilians bring together in one volume the complexity of the fight for mastery of the Mississippi River." (Carol Reardon) Ballard is hailed as a meticulous researcher with a mastery of the complexities that make the Vicksburg campaign so daunting a study.

**Great Military Battles, Edited by Cyril B. Falls:** This book is a departure from our usual books that focus on some aspect of the civil war. This large coffee-table-sized book covers twenty-seven military battles beginning with the battle of Rocroi in 1643 during the Thirty Years War and ending with the 1944 WW II Battle of the Ardennes. Additional chapters cover the development of fortifications, uniforms, tactics, artillery, and small arms. Cyril Bentham Falls (1888 - 1971) was a military historian noted for his work on the First World War. He was born in Dublin and died in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey. Falls served in the First World War I, reaching the rank of Captain in the British Army. He was on the General Staff for the 36th (Ulster) Division and 62nd (2nd West Riding) Division.

*As always, thank you for your generous contributions of gently read books for this raffle. Proceeds help us to fulfill our mission.*

*Lucy*

## NEARBY OCTOBER EVENTS

**October 7-8, Monocacy Battlefield.** The rattling of musketry returns to Monocacy National Battlefield the first weekend in October. Come experience a unique soundscape and learn what it was like to serve in the infantry during the Civil War. Infantry firing demonstration will take place at 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, and 3:00 pm.

**October 7-8. Fort Frederick in the Civil War.** To commemorate Fort Frederick's role in the American Civil War, reenactors will assemble for a weekend of living history demonstrations and tactics demonstrations. Hours are 10 am to 3 pm. Cost \$3 per car for Maryland residents, \$5 for out-of-state visitors. (Note: Fort Frederick is an ORIGINAL fort from the French and Indian War. This is a must see for anyone.)

Strange Cases and Painful Peculiarities – After Hours Tour at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine

**October 21. Civil War Church Service.** Historic Rocky Springs Chapel, 7817 Rocky Springs Road, Frederick, MD. Chaplain Scott Sturdivant, a member of the 8th Virginia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Inc. (a nonprofit Civil War living history organization) will conduct the worship service with a “revival” theme, wearing Civil War period attire, using an 1860s version of the Bible, and leading worshipers in singing hymns of the Civil War period.

**October 21, 10 AM -2 PM. Civil War in Frederick!** Tour sponsored by the YMCA. The tour includes the Monocacy Battlefield and the National Museum of Civil War Medicine with a lunch stop at Barley and Hops. The cost is \$10 and does not include lunch. Meet at the Green Valley Y. Contact Jennifer Coppit at [jcoppit@frederickymca.org](mailto:jcoppit@frederickymca.org) or 301-607-6900 for more details.

**October 27, 6 PM to 9 PM, Strange Cases and Painful Peculiarities – After Hours Tour at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.** “Strange Cases and Painful Peculiarities” will take visitors through the darkened galleries of the museum and examine the Civil War's grizzly side on Friday, October 27th. Tours will take place at 6 PM, 7 PM, and 8 PM. Tickets are \$15 per person.

**October 31. National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 7pm.** On the creepiest evening on the calendar, tour this historic structure, exploring the building's history as they walk through the darkened galleries and offices. Staff and volunteers will share stories of Civil War embalmers, the building's most infamous tenants, and their first-hand accounts of paranormal activity that has given the building the reputation as being the most haunted building in Frederick. Flash photography is prohibited. Be sure to get your tickets early since there are a limited number of spots.

## **BOOK REVIEW by Matt Borders**

Jack W. Lewis, *Storm Coming: A Novel of the Civil War in western Virginia*. 358 pp. photos, notes, references. \$15.95 (paper), ISBN: 978-0989713924

Reviewed by Matthew A. D. Borders

This past summer I had the pleasure of meeting the author of *Storm Coming* while assisting with the 153rd anniversary commemoration activities at Monocacy National Battlefield. Mr. Lewis and I have done similar research on the early war in western Virginia and he asked that I review his book. I am not usually an avid reader of historic novels, but I am very glad that I agreed. This is a wonderfully detailed book that comes at the twisted, confusing history of western Virginia as a story teller would, following key historic characters, both Union and Confederate, as they negotiate the political and military realities of this civil war within the Civil War.

The novel follows the lives of the two men the book is dedicated to, Alexander Swaney (spelled Sweeney in the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database) and Harrison Hagans. These young men are from Smithfield, Pennsylvania and are quickly drawn into the drama and tragedy of the Civil War in part due to their desire to assist friends and acquaintances in western Virginia, who are resisting the call of the rest of Virginia to secede from the Union. Mr. Lewis takes great pains to lay out the series of conventions, debates and discussions happening in western Virginia, prior to that region becoming the state of West Virginia, and what the various consequences may be for the people there.

While the book is Unionist in its sympathies, it does give a fair shake to the Confederate leaders involved. General Robert E. Lee, Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Brigadier General William Loring, Brigadier General Robert Garnett, all make appearances, along with many other important historical figures. What comes off crystal clear is the difficulty both sides had in dealing with the rough terrain and weather of western Virginia, particularly in the first year of the war. What I found most striking was the views of Richmond towards the people of the western part of Virginia, believing that the majority of the population was loyal to the state and that they were being led astray by a few loud individuals. This is the same opinion held in Washington DC in regards to the southern states during the secession crisis of 1860-1861.

My only concern about the novel was how Mr. Lewis decided to segment the chapters by date and time. He initially drops you into June 30th, 1863, the eve of Gettysburg as a hook. The majority of the book is actually a flashback from that point to the opening year of the war. The book is strong enough to stand on its own without this "hook", but I understand the impulse to use a big name like Gettysburg when starting a book about a lesser known aspect of the war. As the pages turn you will notice various time and date stamps being used to keep you abreast of when and where you are with the characters. This took a little bit to get used to, but I realized that this helps keep the pace of the book going, stressing just how fast and fluid the situation in western Virginia was at the time.

I highly recommend this historic novel for anyone interested in the Civil War West Virginia and its history. This fast paced novel will keep the pages turning and is the first of a series of novels about the 1st West Virginia Cavalry and its namesake state.

**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 151 “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, October 19th!

#### **2017-2018 Board of Directors**

**Matt Borders**, President /Webmaster  
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**Kathi Donatucci**, Vice President  
301-874-0197 [corsair45@comcast.net](mailto:corsair45@comcast.net)

**Bob Kozak**, Treasurer  
301-644-1396 [kzagr@aol.com](mailto:kzagr@aol.com)

**Gary Dyson**, Secretary, Facebook, Newsletter  
[gldyson@comcast.net](mailto:gldyson@comcast.net)

**Lucy Tannozzini**, Book Raffle.  
[llucyzzini@yahoo.com](mailto:llucyzzini@yahoo.com)

**Jack Sheriff**, At Large  
301-371-4148 [jbsheriff1@comcast.net](mailto:jbsheriff1@comcast.net)

**Joe Collins**, At Large, [froggyjoe@aol.com](mailto:froggyjoe@aol.com)

**Tom Dumm**, At Large [thomas.dumm@obg.com](mailto:thomas.dumm@obg.com)

**Todd Morris**, At Large, [Todd.b.morris@gmail.com](mailto:Todd.b.morris@gmail.com)

For questions, comments or dues, contact:  
FCCWRT  
P.O. Box 3232, Frederick MD 21705-3232  
[www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org](http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org)

**Our membership drive for the 2017-18 season has begun. Please consider renewing your membership as well inviting friends to join. Your membership provides the space for our meetings, attracting well known speakers, and website and P.O. Box maintenance.**

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! If we had more members we could do more to promote our Civil War history!

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

You can renew your membership at our meeting or by mail. The membership form is attached and may also be downloaded from our website at <http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/>.

# NEW *or* RENEW ANNUAL FCCWRT MEMBERSHIP



NAME (If family membership, please list all names and email addresses)

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STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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EMAIL ADDRESS/ADDRESSES \_\_\_\_\_

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BEST PHONE NUMBER TO REACH ME \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** *We will protect your privacy. None of the above information will be shared.*

**ANNUAL DUES:** Individual - \$30; Family - \$50 (Please make check payable to FCCWRT)

AMOUNT PAID \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to volunteer to assist with registration and other tasks at our monthly meetings
- I am interested in helping with outreach activities

**MAIL TO:**  
FCCWRT  
Box 3232  
Frederick, MD 21701

For additional information about the FCCWRT and to see meeting dates and times  
and our roster of speakers for the season, check our website:

**[www.frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org](http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org)**