



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

265th Meeting

January 2018

Volume 44, Issue 5

January 18, 2018, 7:00 PM National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland



Speaker: James J. Broomall

**Topic: "The Materials of War:
Confederate Cloth and Clothing
from Home and Abroad"**

James J. Broomall is the Director of the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War and an assistant professor of History at Shepherd University. With an abiding passion for the Civil War-era, Professor Broomall has worked in diverse environments ranging from academic institutions to local museums, and developed courses, conferences, and programs of interpretation focusing on the experiences of civilians, soldiers, and slaves during the mid-Nineteenth Century. Broomall's scholarship is dedicated to the Civil War-era. His manuscript, *Personal Reconstructions: War and Peace in the American South, 1840-1880*, is under contract with the University of North Carolina Press, and he, along with William A. Link, published an edited collection *Rethinking American Emancipation: Legacies of Slavery and the Quest for Black Freedom* (2016, Cambridge University Press). Further, Broomall has published articles in *Civil War History*, *The Journal of the Civil War Era*, and the edited volume, *Creating Citizenship in the Nineteenth-Century South* in addition to historiographical essays, book reviews, and online essays. He currently resides in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, with his wife Tish and their sons Simon and Henry.

Despite some excellent, albeit short, descriptive references to Confederates' appearance, few studies have considered seriously how soldiers' uniforms shaped and displayed men's values, ideas, and attitudes. But to Nineteenth-Century Americans, clothing mattered. This talk will

therefore focus on how military attire distinguished soldiers from citizens, established visible bonds among troops, and, most importantly, carried deep and varied meanings to soldiers.



In Case You Missed It..... There was no meeting in December.



FCCWRT SNOW POLICY

The 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 and Facebook notification as soon as the cancellation decision is made. Please use your best judgment in making safety your top priority.

Prez Sez

Happy New Year everyone from all of us on the Frederick County Civil War Round Table Board. We hope that 2018 finds each of you happy, healthy and ready to dive into the rest of our round table season. We have a great series of speakers lined up for you and we are working on something a little special for our last meeting in May. More on that as it develops.

Recently the board was able to partake in one of the lesser known aspects of the Round Table, that of preservation. The idea of preserving our nation's Civil War history has been a cornerstone of the group since it was founded in 1989. Several weeks ago I received an email from the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (GBPA), one of many preservation groups in and around Gettysburg. They were looking for a letter of support for their negotiations with a developer who is threatening the site of Camp Letterman. With our meeting location being where it is, in the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, and Dr. Letterman being such an important part of the story that the museum is trying to tell how could we refuse?

Fortunately the developer does seem willing to negotiate and the board sent our letter of support for these negotiations last week. With a little luck upwards of 17 acres of the former field hospital site could be preserved for future generations. I also sent a copy of the letter to the GBPA for their records. They were very appreciative of the support and intend to keep us informed as to results of the negotiations.

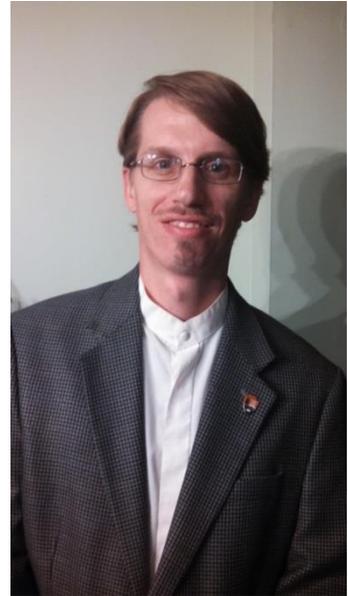
The Frederick County Civil War Round Table will continue to try and play an active role however it can in preservation efforts around our community, state and country. If you know of a preservation project you think the round table could be of help with please let me or any of the board members know. There is a lot we can do together!

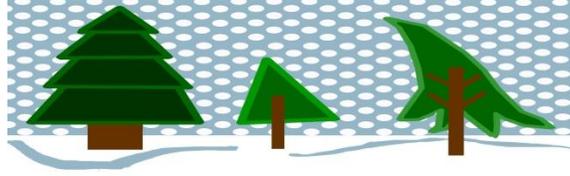
~ Matt Borders

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our membership drive for the 2017-18 season is essentially over, but have room for many more members. 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!





January Book Raffle

Our January book raffle theme is “coffee table” books. Now that winter weather is upon us, and the days are short, we turn to reading our favorite civil war books by the fireplace. If you are like me, you are sound asleep after page seven. The solution? How about instead browsing a nice big coffee table book with lots of period photographs compiled by a well-respected civil war author who has written more than 40 books on the American Civil War?

William Charles “Jack” Davis is an American historian who was a Professor of History at Virginia Tech and the former Director of Programs at that school’s Virginia Center for Civil War Studies. He is the only three-time winner of the Jefferson Davis Prize for Confederate history and was awarded the Jules F. Landry Award for Southern history. (Wikipedia)

We are fortunate to have four volumes from Jack Davis for our January book raffle as well as some wonderful past issues of *The Civil War Times*.

<p>The Embattled Confederacy: Photographs show the aftermath at Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, the addition of Black Union soldiers, and the blockade of the South</p>		<p>The Guns of '62: Hundreds of photographs document the major military events of the second year of the Civil War and provide portraits of the war's leaders</p>	
<p>The Road to Shiloh: Early Battles in the West</p>		<p>First Blood: Fort Sumter to Bull Run</p>	

NEARBY JANUARY EVENTS

January 13 at 1:30 PM. Saving History: Meet the Collections Manager. National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 48 East Patrick Street, Frederick, MD. Follow the journey of an artifact from accession to presentation and learn about how the National Museum of Civil War Medicine cares for its objects from Collections Manager Kate McDaniel.

January 6. Lecture, “After Gettysburg: The Army of Northern Virginia Tries to Regroup,” at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/get

January 13. Lecture, “Discovering Gettysburg: An Unconventional Introduction to the Greatest Little Town in America and the Monumental Battle that Made it Famous,” at the Carnegie Library, 300 Beechwood Ave, Carnegie. 1 pm. Free. carnegiecarnegie.org

January 13. Lecture, “Capt. Johnston’s Sunrise Reconnaissance: How Lee and Longstreet Lost the War on July 2, 1863,” at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/gett

January 14. Lecture, “USS Monitor: The Ship that Launched a Modern Navy,” at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/gett

January 21. Lecture, “If These Things Could Talk: Artifacts in the Collection of Gettysburg National Military Park,” at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/gett

January 27. Lecture, “Breaking the Final Bond: The Presbyterian Church and the Coming of the War,” at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/gett

January 28. Lecture, “‘A Great Weight at My Heart’: The Army of the Potomac after Gettysburg,” at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/gett.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

February 3, 2018. 19th Annual Civil War Seminar-Leadership in the Civil War. Jarman Auditorium, Longwood University, Farmville, VA. Speakers include Ed Bearss, Gary Gallagher, General Jack Mountcastle, Judith Giesburg, and Ralph Peters. For more information contact Dr. David Coles at 434-395-2220 or Patrick Schroeder at 434-352-8987, Ext. 232.

March 16-18, 2018. Civil War Weekend, Blacksburg, VA. "Civil War Places" is the theme for the event. The war left its lasting mark not only on the people who fought it but also on the places where it happened: the battlefields, the towns, the homes, the rivers and forests and mountains. This year, we're asking each of our speakers to reflect on a Civil War site that they find particularly evocative, particularly significant—perhaps a place that they have a personal connection to. <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/cww/index.html>.

April 14, 2018. Liberty University Civil War Seminar. This year's seminar is titled "Civil War Legacies." The Liberty University Department of History will be hosting its annual Civil War Seminar on Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 9:00 am--4:30 pm in the Liberty University Visitors Center. This event is free and open to the public. Guest speakers R. David Cox, Paul Dakin, Doug Wicklund, Alan Farley, and Dr. Carey Roberts. For more information call Mrs. Rachel Allison at 434-592-4366 or contact her at rbrown165@liberty.edu.

BOOK REVIEW by Matt Borders

Jack Dempsey and Brian Egen, *Michigan At Antietam: The Wolverine State's Sacrifice on America's Bloodiest Day*. 227 pp. photos, notes, maps, references. \$17.24 (Paperback) ISBN: 978-1626199279

I have to admit, I am a Michigander and have been excited to read this book since it first came out. Fortunately, I was not disappointed. *Michigan At Antietam*, is part of the highly successful Civil War Series by The History Press. This series specializes in taking battles and campaigns and bringing them down to the personal level, giving readers a chance to learn about not only the maneuvers on the field, but also about the men in the ranks themselves.

Mr. Dempsey and Mr. Egen, two of the heavy hitters in the Michigan Civil War community, have done just that. I am a big fan of my home state and know a fair bit about the units and the men who fought for it during the Civil War, yet I still found lots I did not know in this book. Many Civil War enthusiasts know George Custer led the Michigan Brigade at Gettysburg and that he lived for a time in Monroe, Michigan, (he was actually born in Ohio), but how about other famous names? Israel Richardson for example, farmed in Michigan for years before the outbreak of the war and commanded the 2nd Michigan Infantry at First Bull Run before being bumped up the ladder, finally commanding a Division of the II Corps at Antietam. Or even closer to Frederick, Alpheus Williams of Special Orders 191 fame, was a longtime resident of Michigan and had commanded Michiganders during the Mexican-American War as well as the Civil War!

For those of you not enamored with Michigan there is still a lot this book offers. Michigan soldiers were crucially involved in every stage of the Maryland Campaign from the finding of Special Orders 191, to the pursuit of Lee's army at Shepherdstown. The stories and details of individual Michigan soldiers and regiments at South Mountain, Antietam and Shepherdstown give a better understanding to the terrible whole that was the Maryland Campaign, the Battle of Antietam, its aftermath and its memory.

That tradition continues as this book was developed, in part, as a way to help finance an eventual monument to Michigan soldiers at Antietam National Battlefield. The Michigan Civil War Association (MCWA) purchased a small parcel of the Wilson property near the West Woods shortly after the Sesquicentennial with the intention of placing a monument there. The Wilson property has since passed into National Park Service hands, but the MCWA still owns their portion. This book offers a fascinating look into all the various challenges associated with monument development today, as well as the challenges that go into designing them. I highly recommend this book for those interested not only in Civil War history, but also mid-west history, soldiers' stories, historical memory and monumentation.

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, February 15, 2018!

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