



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

289th Meeting (delayed until September) April 2020

Volume 47, Issue # 9

**Presentation on May 21, 2020 7:00 PM
Has been cancelled due to the Ongoing COVID-19
circumstances**



We hope to bring back: Mr. Mark Dudrow for his presentation on the Civil War exploits of Company A, 1st Potomac Home Brigade Cavalry (Cole's Cavalry) as soon as practicable.

Looking Forward to Next Years Program

Program Speakers and Topics 2020-2021

2020

September 17

Speaker: Scott Mingus

Topic: Targeted Tracks: The Cumberland Valley Railroad
In the Civil War

October 15

Speaker: Logan Metesh

Topic: The Most Influential Man in the (Gun) World:
James Henry Burton

November 12

Speaker: Bill Hallet

Topic: The Pratt Street Riot

December 10

Speaker: Mike Fitzpatrick

Topic: July 1864 Battle of Rockville

2021

January 21

Speaker: Harry Seltzer

Topic: First Battle of Bull Run

February 18

Speaker: Joel Hummel

Topic: Civil War Intelligence: The Bureau of Military
Information

March 18

Speaker: David Dixon

Topic: The Lost Gettysburg Address

April 15

Speaker: Dennis Duerbeck

Topic: Artillery: It's Use and Artifact Presentation

May 20

Speaker: Jake Wynn & Kyle Dalton

Topic: Caring for the Wounded:
Evacuation & Amputation

frederickcountycivilwarrt.org and on Facebook



Prez Sez

As we reach the close of our 30th season I have been reflecting on the Frederick County Civil War Round Table as an organization. Its various homes throughout the years and members that are no longer with us. Even now with these challenging times, and difficulties with even having meetings due to the shutdowns, I am truly humbled to be the President of this organization and thankful to all of you who continue to support the round table through your attendance, and desire to learn from our quality speakers.

Unfortunately, the Corona-19 shutdowns have played havoc with our spring 2020 meeting schedule. This inconvenience continues. As you may have guessed the May meeting of the round table has also been canceled. While rumors persist of Maryland opening up in the near future, we do not know this as fact. The round table board and myself see the safety of our membership as our first priority. We also do not want to put undue pressure on our hosts, the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, who have their own issues to deal with before opening back up to the public. As such we are ending the season early and look forward to hopefully having regularly scheduled meetings again next September.

Due to the cancellation of three meetings this season the round table board has decided to offer to our current membership, a discount on dues next season. Current dues paying members will get five dollars off next seasons membership dues. Assuming we are able to have our meetings next fall, we are also making an investment in PPE for anyone who wants to join us but may not yet feel entirely comfortable with being in close proximity to other people yet. We will keep you updated on the goings on of the round table as we progress through the summer.

Finally, I want to once again thank the round table board for their continued support. Particularly over these last few months. This period would have been much more difficult for all of us and particularly me without their help. I look forward to seeing you all again in the near future. Stay safe, stay healthy and we will all get through.

~ Matt Borders

A Message from the Board of Directors

The FCCWRT Board will never endanger the health or safety of roundtable members or guests and assess the risk for any given meeting. We will continue to monitor the ongoing circumstances we find ourselves in and strive to bring members the best in Civil War History presentations and, in the interim, provide information about things to do, until we can once again will continue to maintain this

virtual experience opportunities and provide experiences in person. We approach in the Fall.



Book Review by Matt Borders

John Schildt, Monuments at Antietam. 193 pp. photos, bibliography. \$16.95 (paper)
ISBN:0936-772-07 Reviewed by Matthew A. D. Borders

For those in Civil War circles, particularly for students of the Battle of Antietam, the name John Schildt will ring many bells. Reverend Schildt is the senior battlefield guide at Antietam National Battlefield and is a font of knowledge on not only the Maryland Campaign, but the people of Western Maryland. Still sought out as a guide and guest speaker, John is also a prolific writer. His books taking on different, often times lesser known aspects of the Maryland Campaign and the people affected by it. In the case of Monuments At Antietam however Reverend Schildt was filling a need. As no work had done on the, at the time, 98 monuments on the battlefield. This particular addition is from 1991 and does not take into account several monuments that have since come into National Park Service control or those that were put up for the Sesquicentennial several years ago. Fortunately, John released a new updated edition of this work two years ago, which is available at the Antietam Museum Store.

The structure of Monuments at Antietam is straight forward, broken up into sections by state. There is a brief history documenting the process of developing and placing each states monument (s) on the battlefield, as well information on the various states "Dedication Days". These were done for states such as Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio and others that had multiple monuments placed throughout the battlefield. A day, or several days were set aside for the dedication of these at one time, this way the veterans and their families could be present, but dignitaries did have to keep coming back to Sharpsburg every time a new monument was completed. The author also makes note of the numerous re-dedications that were done for these monuments during the centennial of the war and that the majority of the Confederate monuments at Antietam went up at that time.

Of particular interest are the brief histories given with each monuments' entry in the book. These vary greatly from monument to monument. In some cases, the 9th New York Infantry for example, the dedication speech has been reproduced in its entirety. For other entries, far less has been uncovered and only the details pertaining to the monument, such as the inscription, date of dedication and cost are included. In each case a there is also at least one photograph of the monument.

During this time of social distancing and isolation, I've found John Schildt's book to be particularly helpful when tramping the trails of the battlefield. Yes, any visitor may read the inscriptions on the monuments, and more should, but Monuments at Antietam allows you to get a little closer to the men the monuments were dedicated to. For most of the monuments on Antietam National Battlefield there were still many veterans alive from the Civil War when their monuments were dedicated. The veterans themselves had a hand and a say in where the monuments were placed and what would be included in them. Yes, you are more than able to sit and read Monuments at Antietam cover to cover and call it a day, you will get a lot out of it. I recommend taking it with you though when you visit the field. Pick a monument, walk out to it, read it, appreciate the artistry, and then dive a little deeper with this book.

I highly recommend this or the newest addition of John Schildt's, Monuments at Antietam for anyone visiting Antietam National Battlefield.

Book Review by Bob Smart

Thomas J. Ryan and Richard R. Schaus, "Lee is Trapped and Must be Taken": Eleven Fateful Days after Gettysburg, July 4-14, 1863. 358pp. Appendix, notes, bibliography, index, maps, pictures. Savas Beatie, publisher. Available in hardcover, paperback, Nook and Kindle eBook formats. Winner of the Edwin C. Bearss Scholarly Research Award. Reviewed by Bob Smart

From reading the initial blurb about this book I was prepared to not like it. I have always thought that George Meade has gotten a raw deal from those who thought he should have done more to destroy Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia after the Battle of Gettysburg. After all he had just been thrust into command, was using a staff that he had not chosen and stopped an army that until then seemingly could do little wrong. What do they expect from a mere mortal? Well, I may have been a little hasty.

The period in the immediate aftermath of Gettysburg has been a wasteland for literature. Even Coddington in The Gettysburg Campaign only has a single chapter of about 35 pages devoted to the period. There is some coverage of the Battle of Falling Waters but I have found almost no coverage of the time between when the powder smoke cleared and the last Confederate dried his feet on the Virginia (now West Virginia) shore of the Potomac River. Until now. Ryan and Schaus have explored this campaign in depth. And it was a campaign, as mobile and wide spread as the Confederate invasion of Pennsylvania. Reinforcements and supplies were being marshaled from across the region, blocking forces were being put in place. Even the heavens seemed to be on the Unions side for once with heavy rains causing the Potomac and other streams to rise hindering or even blocking attempts to cross them.

Especially for those of us who live in the area the place names are familiar; South Mountain, Hagerstown, Boonsborough, even Antietam Creek and Sharpsburg make an appearance as Federal forces scour the countryside to contain the elusive Army of Northern Virginia. The Union Cavalry is doing what cavalry should be doing, spreading across the countryside pinning the extent of the enemy horde. Stuart and his usually flamboyant Southern cavaliers are tied to protecting the rear of the Confederate column trying to protect the suffering wounded in their agonizing retreat. There are also the Union prisoners being pushed south. The Confederates do not want to just turn them loose, and do not have the time to do the formal parole process. So they are prodded south.

The authors have done excellent research and have wound it into an excellent narrative that makes you want to follow the campaign. They explain the options that were available to both commanders describe the outside factors that were at least attempting to influence Meade and pressuring Lee to act as he did.

Did the book change my view of this very overlooked period of the war? Yes. I am not sure if I believe that Meade could have ended the war on the north bank of the Potomac but it has at least made me doubt the views I have held for years and made me want to look into this period that had the chance to change and possibly shorten the war. It will fill a gap in any library on the Gettysburg Campaign.

Still Surviving Social Distancing using my [Addiction]

Bob Smart (cwfan@monocacy.com)

Well another month cut off from direct human contact. I finished "**Lee is Trapped, And Must be Taken**": **Eleven Fateful Days After Gettysburg: July 4-14, 1863** by Thomas Ryan and Richard Schaus, and **World War II at Sea: A Global History** by Craig Symonds. I am currently working on "**McClellan's War**" by Ethan S. Rafuse and re-reading "The Good Shepard" by C.S. Forester. Forester is the author of the Hornblower series of sailing fiction. The Good Shepard is about a WWII North Atlantic convoy from the viewpoint of an American destroyer captain. It is a good intense sea story. And yes, it is currently being made into a movie with Tom Hanks.

I mentioned last month that I was pulling some of my old games out of storage. I've decided to get Antietam from the SPI Blue and Gray series out first. This is a brigade level simulation of Antietam. But I have decided to do it with a twist. Instead of playing it as a game or using my own tactical thoughts about moves I am attempting to duplicate the actual movements that took place that day. This also involves trying to duplicate the results of each action as closely as possible to what happened that day. In other words, were the results that happened at the Cornfield and Bloody Lane in line with results that could be expected or were the results unusual or flukes that were outside what should have been expected. Each turn in the game is 'about one to one and a half hours' (There are 10 turns covering the 12 or so hours of the battle) and I will be taking pictures and making notes at each turn. Stay tuned to see what the results are.

The Internet remains a continuing source of entertainment and information (not always at the same time). There are several high-quality discussion groups on the Civil War. Some are focused on a particular battle; some try to cover the entire war from a particular angle. It is easy (at least for me) to start looking up one item and get sidetracked into an interesting detail and then on to another interesting point. It is the same problem I used to have in college when going to the library to do research for a paper that was due soon. The amount of information available today is astounding. I can remember when Boatner's '**Civil War Dictionary**' sat on my desk because there was always something that needed to be looked up whether it was the name of a general and which battles, he fought in or the weight of a 3" Ordnance gun. Now all that and much more is available by clicking on Google. The downside is that I think many younger researchers and students are not picking up good research skills and learning how to evaluate the quality of sources. But that is a topic for another time

I hope everyone is surviving this unique time we are going through and looking forward when we can actually meet in person again.

Upcoming Virtual Events

(For any event listed please remember to confirm it's happening before hitting the keyboard)

11 May at 1:00 PM - "[Sick From Freedom: African American Illness and Suffering during the Civil War and Reconstruction.](#)" Director of Interpretation Jake Wynn and Membership and Development Coordinator Kyle Dalton will have a conversation with Dr. Jim Downs about his book Hosted Facebook Live by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, the page is here: [Facebook.com/CivilWarMed](https://www.facebook.com/CivilWarMed)

11 May at 7:00 PM - [Three Views of Gettysburg](#) from his three books [Pickett's Charge: The Untold Story](#); [Emotional Gettysburg](#); and [J. Howard Wert's Gettysburg: A Collection of Relics from the Civil War Battle](#). Presented by Bruce Mowday and brought to us by the CWRT Congress, free of charge. The registration link is here: <https://www.cwrtcongress.org/lectures.html>

15 May at 1:00 PM - [Lessons from a Civil War Medicinal Herb Garden](#) Greg Susla of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine will discuss his five years of work on the re-established medicinal herb garden at the Pry House at Antietam National Battlefield. He will note the medicinal applications of the various plants grown in the garden and their uses during the 19th century. Presented on NMCWM on Facebook Live page at: [Facebook.com/CivilWarMed](https://www.facebook.com/CivilWarMed)

15 May at 2:00 PM - [Fort Fisher: The Gibraltar of the South](#). Presented by the Mariners Museum live with John V. Quarstein. The link for more details and to attend the lecture is here: www.MarinersMuseum.org/LIVE

18 May at 12:00 PM – [Civil War Photography](#). Hosted by the [George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War](#) Dana Shoaf and Melissa Winn of Civil War Times will discuss photography during the Civil War the event will be livestreamed on Facebook live at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/georgetylermoorecenter/>

19 May at 7:00 PM - [Did Forrest Make a Difference?](#) Presented by John Scales and brought to us by the CWRT Congress, free of charge. The registration link is here: <https://www.cwrtcongress.org/lectures.html>

21 May at 7:00 PM - [Black Experience in Civil War Georgia](#) Presented by David Dixon and brought to us by the CWRT Congress, free of charge. The registration link is here: <https://www.cwrtcongress.org/lectures.html>

29 May at 2:00 PM - [CSS Albemarle](#). Presented by the Mariners Museum live with John V. Quarstein. The link for more details and to attend the lecture is here: www.MarinersMuseum.org/LIVE

Other Virtual Offerings for casual viewing (tip of the cap to the CWRT Congress for providing many)

Woodman Museum in Dover, NH has a YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i85KA1vJbxM&t=500s>

History Channel's documentary on U. S. Grant

<https://meaww.com/history-leonardo-di-caprio-documentary-ron-chernow-grant>

Loudon County CWRT – The Battle of Island #10

<https://www.facebook.com/SoundOfTheGuns/posts/10157017701015913>

Gettysburg CWRT – The Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War

<https://www.facebook.com/CivilWarRoundTableOfGettysburg/live/>

American Battlefield Trust's distance learning classroom

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn>

[Visit Gettysburg with War Photographer Louie Palu](#)

National Museum of Civil War Medicine Facebook Page, offering Facebook live opportunities weekly: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/CivilWarMed/videos/>

National Museum of Civil War Medicine now offering its own YouTube Channel, tons of content available: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdGkf5-Y7aEZsXEBhRhEKjg?>

National Museum of Civil War Medicine Virtual Museum Initiative

The National Museum of Civil War Medicine (NMCWM) is closed to the public until such a time as it is safe and advisable to reopen. However, the NMCWM remains open online. During the public closure, the museum will focus on creating a virtual museum experience. The story of Civil War medicine – which offers accounts of hope in the face of an unprecedented health care crisis – is more important now than ever.

“This is a clear case of taking advantage of a forced opportunity. The NMCWM had authored a Virtual Museum Initiative to be completed over the next two years, but the Coronavirus pandemic has moved that timetable from a few years to a few weeks,” says Executive Director David Price. “In these uncharted waters, we want the museum to be a helpful resource for teachers and

students everywhere so that we can teach the important lessons of Civil War Medicine – which we now see in the response to the Coronavirus outbreak.”

The NMCWM has [created a page](#) of resources for students, teachers, individuals, and history buffs alike to use during this time of remote learning. Facebook Lives, YouTube videos, and other digital content will be released over the coming weeks in an effort to provide educational resources and inspiring stories to learn from.

The NMCWM’s online resource hub can be found at www.civilwarmed.org/online-resources

Seminars, Conferences and Upcoming Tours

12-17 June - The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College (CWI) Summer Conference has been **cancelled** due to COVID-19. On Saturday, June 13, the weekend the conference would have been held, we will feature a day of special programming via Facebook Live.

24-26 July - The Society for Women and the Civil War (www.SWCW.org) holds its 21st annual conference at the Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia. This year’s theme will be “The Women of the Valley. “The keynote speaker will be distinguished author and consultant Jonathan A. Noyalas, Director of the McCormick Civil War Institute, Shenandoah University, Winchester, Virginia.

7-9 August The Seventh Annual Emerging Civil War Symposium at Stevenson Ridge Our theme this year is “Fallen Leaders of the Civil War.” We are excited to host this year’s keynote speaker, Gordon Rhea, who will speak about J.E.B. Stuart’s mortal wounding at Yellow Tavern and the impact on the Army of Northern Virginia. Stevenson Ridge will again host this year’s symposium in Spotsylvania County. Offering historic lodging at one of their several historic cottages. For more information contact Stevenson Ridge at [540-582-6263](tel:540-582-6263) or visit their website at: www.stevensonridge.com or our new [Venue Information page](#).
<https://emergingcivilwar.com/2020-symposium/>

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteerism and the ability to volunteer has been interrupted by the COVID-19 circumstances we find ourselves in. We will keep members and friends informed about future volunteer opportunities.

Interested in volunteering to keep the FCCWRT running and growing? Let us know at a meeting or send an email to our President Matt Borders (mattborders@comcast.net). Areas of need are listed below. We will have board elections at the end of the season for members interested in leadership positions.

Areas in which to assist the Round Table:
Programs (help with acquiring possible speakers, field trips, etc.)
Website (maintain and update group’s website)
Outreach, Marketing, Newsletter, Others

Who We Are, Where to Find Us



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!! 438 followers and 413 “likes”!

Gary Dyson has done an amazing job with keeping up posting interesting Civil War facts and discussions. Help us spread the word about OUR FCCWRT.

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.

2019-2020 Board of Directors

Matt Borders, President /Webmaster, mborders@comcast.net

Gary Dyson, Vice President, garyldyson@gmail.com

Bob Kozak, Treasurer, 301-644-1396 kzagr@aol.com

Todd Morris, Secretary, Newsletter, todd.b.morris@gmail.com

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Joe Collins, At Large, froggyjoe@aol.com

Tom Dumm, At Large, thomas.dumm@obg.com

Bob Smart, At Large, cwfan@monocacy.com

For questions, comments or dues, contact:

FCCWRT

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

www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org

Our membership drive will begin soon for the 020-21 season. 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 (\$25.00 for current dues paying members.)
- \$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)

STREET ADDRESS

EMAIL ADDRESS/ADDRESSES

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