



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

303d Meeting, 33th Season

Volume 46, Issue # 3

November 17th, 2022, 7:00 PM National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland



Speaker: Tom McMillan

Presentation Overview: Armistead and Hancock: Behind the Gettysburg Legend of Two Friends at the Turning Point of the Civil War.

This month the round table looks forward to an exciting presentation by lifelong student of the Civil war Tom McMillan presenting his part dual biography and part Civil War history, Armistead and Hancock: Behind the Gettysburg Legend takes a fascinating deep dive into the friendship between

Confederate General Lewis Armistead and Union General Winfield Scott Hancock -- a friendship that has been heavily dramatized in popular novels and movies . Based on years of research and previously untapped sources, the book provides new information and fresh perspective to reverse decades of misconceptions about an amazing story of two friends that has come to define the Civil War. Smithsonian Associates, National Elderhostel, Mount Vernon Estate, and Historic Bartram's The following bio information and "synopsis" are both adapted from the amazon page for Armistead and Hancock: Behind the Gettysburg Legend of Two Friends at the Turning Point of the Civil War. Feel free to edit as needed.

Presenters Bio: Tom McMillan, a lifelong student of the Civil War, has served on the board of trustees of Pittsburgh's Heinz History Center, the board of directors of the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial, and the marketing committee of the Gettysburg Foundation. His previous books are Flight 93: The Story, The Aftermath and The Legacy of American Courage on 9/11 and Gettysburg Rebels: Five Native Sons Who Came Home to Fight as Confederate Soldiers, which won the Bachelder-Coddington Literary Award. Tom recently retired after a forty-three-year career in sports media and communications, including 25 years as VP of Communications for the Pittsburgh Penguins. He and his wife, Colleen, are volunteer battlefield ambassadors at Antietam.



In Case you missed it

In October, Mr. Roger Schwarz walked members of the roundtable and guests through the detailed unfolding of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858, and later the “Speech that would make him President” to which Lincoln was invited due to his notoriety from the debates, albeit on the losing end of those debates. Though he lost, these debates catapulted Lincoln to the presidency in 1860. Roger

guided us through the city by city, district by district schedule of each debate, careful to impart



not only what happened, but what Lincoln had learned in the various contests. We explored the issue of slavery and the freedman throughout the debates held in 7 towns in Illinois. Roger’s research allowed him to provide even details about the public speaking characteristics of the debaters as well as characteristics of the towns sponsoring these debates for the position of U.S. Senator of Illinois. Douglas won, retaining his senatorial seat, and he clearly explained why, but also how these debates led to Lincoln’s lecture at Cooper Union in New York City on February 27, 1860. This speech made him president.



Prez Sez:

Happy belated Halloween from the Frederick County Civil War Round Table board! In October we had our first meeting back in the National Museum of Civil War Medicine since last spring and it was a great success! Our speaker, Roger Schwarz, gave us a fantastic program on the Lincoln / Douglas Debates, adding some real context to the pre-war years and the development of Lincoln the orator.

This month we are looking at another famous relationship of pre-war origins, the friendship of Louis Armistead and Winfield Hancock. West Point

classmates turned Civil War revivals, the camaraderie of these men was made famous by the novel *The Killer Angels*, and later the film *Gettysburg*. Was their affection for one another something that can be determined by the historic record, or do we have another example of Hollywood developing a good story? Our speaker, Tom McMillan, will let us know as he takes us through his work, [Armistead and Hancock: Behind the Gettysburg Legend of Two Friends at the Turning Point of the Civil War.](#)

On the preservation front, Frederick County got some big news in October. The Sugarloaf Plan, that threatened to develop large areas of green space east of interstate 270 and dangerously close to Monocacy National Battlefield, was rejected! This was a big win for the Sugarloaf Alliance, who spearheaded the resistance at the County Council meetings and great news for landscape preservation. While successful for the moment, this fight is likely not over.

In addition to the preservation efforts at Sugarloaf, the fight near Manassas National Military Park continues. Where we saw the development plan for a server farm approved in late August, that is now being challenged by an American Battlefield Trust petition. That petition can be found here: <https://www.battlefields.org/preserve/speak-out/save-manassas-from-massive-data-centers> and has letters of support for both county residents and those of us who are preservation minded from outside the county. Continue to watch this space, as well as our Facebook page for more information on both of these preservation battles as they develop.

Looking forward to seeing you at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine on November 17 at 7pm!

*Very Respectfully,
Matt Borders,
President, FCCWRT*

Book Review - November

I Fear I Shall Never Leave This Island: Life in a Civil War Prison. Edited by David R. Bush. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2011. xiii + 269 pp. \$34.95 (cloth), ISBN 978-0-8130-3744-8.

Reviewed by Matthew A. Borders Johnson's Island from the Inside

When Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia began its retreat from Gettysburg following its defeat on July 3, 1863, Lee was relying on the cavalry brigade of Brigadier General John D. Imboden to protect his trains of supplies and wounded while also acting as a rearguard against any potential Union pursuit. One of the regiments in Imboden's brigade was the 18th Virginia Cavalry, which was commanded by his brother Colonel George W. Imboden. The Confederate cavalry was successful in escorting Lee's beleaguered Confederates to Williamsport, Maryland, where they intended to cross the Potomac into West Virginia. High water and a destroyed pontoon bridge, however, kept the Confederates from immediately crossing, forcing them to dig in around Williamsport. As this drama unfolded, the Confederate cavalry did its best to rest and resupply while waiting for the river to fall. On July 8, Wesley Makely, a captain in Company D of the 18th Virginia Cavalry, was captured near Clear Spring, Maryland, while attempting to acquire provisions for his company's horses.

Makely, who was called Nessa by his wife Catherine, whom he called Kate, was quickly packed off to Camp Chase, Ohio, before being transferred to Johnson's Island on July 18, 1863. He remained on the island until his exchange and transfer back east on March 21, 1865. His time on the island, just over a year and eight months, produced a fascinating collection of correspondence with his wife that gives clues not only to life on the island, but also to how Confederate prisoners of war, particularly those with means, dealt with their incarceration.

Throughout the correspondence between the young couple a number of themes developed. First and foremost was the desire to see one another again and the hope for a speedy exchange. Bush made a point of discussing the Dix-Hill Cartel that established a system of exchange between the U. S. and Confederate militaries and how this system, ratified on July 22, 1862, had broken down by May of 1863. This breakdown was due primarily to issues of proper treatment of prisoners by both sides and the South's refusal to treat captured United States Colored Troops or their officers as legitimate prisoners of war. The collapse of the exchange system resulted in significant overpopulation of prisoner of war sites on both sides of the Mason-Dixon, including Johnson's Island. Wesley faced these hardships stoically, and one gets the impression that he was deliberately keeping information regarding his difficulties on the island from Catherine.

Beyond sickness and exchange, the topic that takes up the greatest portion of the Makely letters, and the subject the author chooses to focus the majority of his attention on, is that of prisoner jewelry. Bush is a professor of anthropology at Heidelberg University and has personally excavated portions of the prisoner depot over the course of several years. There he found a considerable amount of refuse from the thriving jewelry-making trade on Johnson's Island. The bulk of this jewelry was made from a hard rubber known as gutta-percha. Gutta-percha was most often used to make buttons and it was from these buttons that prisoners carved a variety of finger and earrings, as well as pins and other knick-knacks. Evidence of this production, found at the sites of all the barracks and latrines, can also be found throughout the Makely letters, and Wesley himself became quite engrossed with sending jewelry home to his loved ones. Bush suggests that this near obsession with having fine pieces of jewelry made and sent south is an example of Wesley attempting to fulfill his duties as a provider even while incarcerated. As Wesley succeeded in sending several batches of jewelry home over his twenty-month stay at Johnson's Island and seems to have obsessed over the items being made correctly, this theory appears to be well founded.

In conclusion, I Fear I Shall Never Leave This Island: Life in a Civil War Prison, is a fascinating work that allows the reader access to the private lives of the Makely's and the trials and tribulations they faced over the course of Wesley's imprisonment. The book covers not only the production of prisoner-made jewelry and discussions on exchange and sickness, but also delves into the how prisoners dealt with the day-to-day

boredom of imprisonment. Their coping strategies ranged from the mundane, such as reading or playing games, to the brilliant, as in the case of Lieutenant Robert Smith of the 61st Tennessee Infantry, who not only managed to make his own working photo studio but also earned over two hundred dollars by taking pictures of his fellow inmates! These stories and the accompanying images provided by Bush make *I Fear I Shall Never Leave This Island* well worth the read and a must for researchers of both Civil War prisoners of war and the Southern home front.

FCCWRT 22-23 Season Remaining Schedule

2022

December 15 - Speaker: Alex Rossino

Topic: Their Maryland: The Army of Northern Virginia from the Potomac Crossing to Sharpsburg in September 1862

2023

January 19 - Speaker: Anthony Trusso

Topic: Francis Barlow & the 61st New York Infantry

February 16 - Speaker: Chris Bryan

Topic: Cedar Mountain to Antietam: A Civil War Campaign History of the Union XII Corps, July – September 1862

March 16 - Speaker: Ron Kirkwood

Topic: “Too Much for Human Endurance”: The George Spangler Farm Hospitals and the Battle of Gettysburg

April 20 - Speaker: Leon Reed

Topic: No Greater Calamity for the Country: North-South Conflict, Secession, and the Onset of the Civil War

May 19 - Speaker: Eric Wittenberg

Topic: Destined to Fail: The Johnson-Gilmer Cavalry Raid around Baltimore, July 10-13, 1864

November Book Raffle

Book Raffle

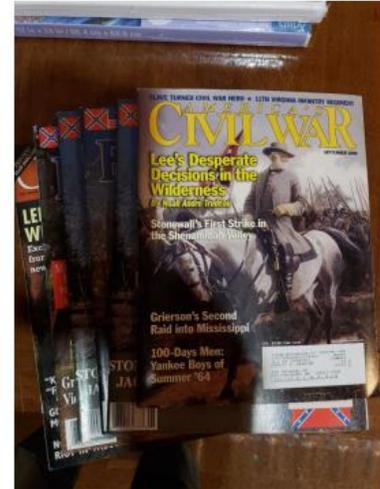
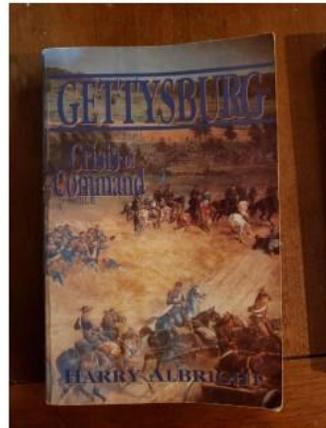
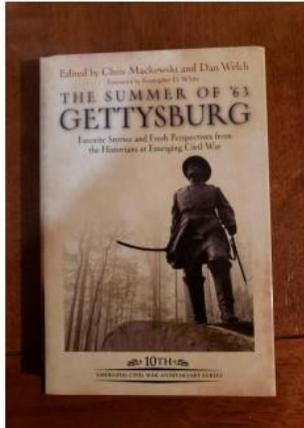
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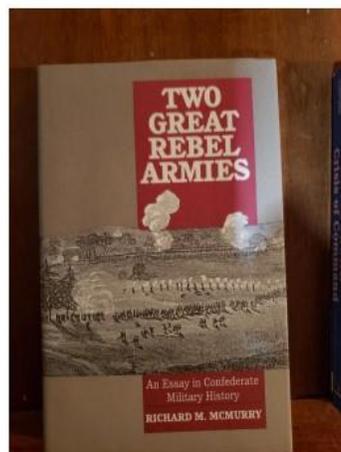
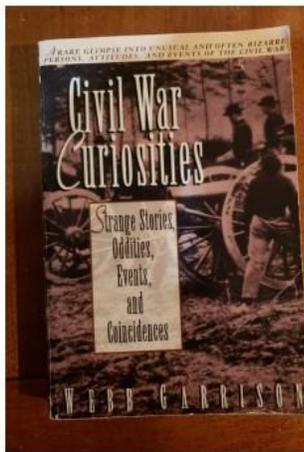
Book Raffle

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November 17, 2022



6 Magazines



Mugs, Lanyard, and original Minie Ball,
Tape is Battle of Lynchburg- by James Robertson

FCCWRT Lectures Available

For those of you who may have missed any of the Virtual Presentations from the previous seasons of the FCCWRT, all presentations can be found on the National Museum of Civil War Medicine YouTube channel found here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/nmcwm/videos>

The Antietam Institute

The Antietam Institute is the leading member-based, educational, and philanthropic 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, dedicated to the education and scholarship of the Maryland Campaign. The Institute seeks to educate the public on the central role of the 1862 Maryland Campaign, and

Battle of Antietam, as a major turning point of the Civil War that directly resulted in the issuance of the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

Each year the Institute makes donations to the battlefield parks, local preservation groups and other historic organizations that support the Institute's goals. As a member - based organization, the Antietam Institute needs the support of individuals interested in the 1862 Maryland Campaign. Membership levels begin as low as \$25 a year and rise to a lifetime membership of only \$1000. Each level has increasing levels of membership incentives. If you are interested in joining or learning more about the Antietam Institute, check out our website at antietaminstitute.org or email us at info@antietaminstitute.org .

Our NMCWM Partner links

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?>

Civil War Institutes Summer Conference



CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE
SUMMER CONFERENCE
JUNE 9-14, 2023



CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE



Featuring...
**Garry Adelman, Matt Atkinson,
Peter Carmichael, Harold Holzer,
Jennifer Murray, Carol Reardon,
Jeffrey Wert, and more!**



Program includes active battlefield experiences, lectures, and interactive small-group discussions with leading Civil War scholars; customizable packages available!

Be sure to inquire about our numerous discounts for military veterans, Gettysburg College alums, members of local partnering institutions & publications, K-12 educators, public historians, students, youths, and "new attendee recruiters!"

<https://www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/2023-cwi-conference#schedule>

Questions? Contact civilwar@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-6590 for further information



2023 CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE

Summer Conference

JUNE 9-14, 2023

For nearly 40 years, the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College has hosted a **premiere annual summer conference** bringing leading historians and public audiences together. Sessions, lodging, and meals are held on the 200-acre college campus.

The 2023 CWI Conference will feature a wide range of topics, including **Lincoln as Commander in Chief, the Civil War in Appalachia, Harriet Tubman, John Singleton Mosby, Confederate widowhood, retaliation in the American Civil War, the Army of Tennessee**, and more.

In addition to touring the Gettysburg battlefield, participants will have the opportunity to **visit a variety of other nearby battlefields** and historic sites on tours that will explore **Antietam and Harpers Ferry**, or to **combine a half-day of focused class work with a half-day out on the battlefield**, exploring, in-depth, the actions on the **1st or 3rd day of battle at Gettysburg**. Participants who may prefer a shorter, more physically active conference experience can also choose to sign up for our **new "active track" package**, featuring a combination of Friday and Saturday morning lectures and a day and a half of walking-intensive tours of the Gettysburg battlefield on Saturday and Sunday, exploring **the First Day's battlefield and the Union Fishhook, off the beaten path!**

This conference will also continue the popular **"lunch-in" and "dine-in" small group discussions** with CWI faculty.

The 2023 conference will offer something for everyone, from longtime students of the Civil War to those who are new to Civil War history.



CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

300 North Washington St.
Campus Box 435
Gettysburg, PA 17325-1400

717-337-6590
civilwar@gettysburg.edu
www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference

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://www.facebook.com/fccwrt> Gary Dyson is our “face” for Facebook, help us spread the word about OUR FCCWRT!! 2.2K likes and 2.3K follows !

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.

Also visit our website at: <http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/>

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.

As President Borders stated, our membership drive for the year is ongoing! Please consider supporting the Round Table during the 22-23 season, by 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/>.

2021-2022 Board of Directors

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

Vacant, Vice President

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

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

Ken Derrenbacher, Book Raffle, kderren3@gmail.com

Gary Dyson, At Large, garyldyson@gmail.com

Lucy Tannozzini, At Large, llucyzzini@yahoo.com

Jack Sheriff, At Large, 301-371-4148 jbsheriff1@comcast.net

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

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