



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

329th Meeting, 36^h Season

Volume 52 Issue # 1

Frederick County Civil War RoundTable Meeting

April 16th, 2026
7:00pm

ZOOM only Presentation

You can click on the link and then click on JOIN to so that you are connected into the meeting.

The Zoom link for Thursday evening is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87805477532?pwd=dqk8PTVfQOSmLE7JBbZA9LNxqTm3cA.1>

Speaker: Jake Wynn

Topic: *Four Years at War: The Civil War Through the Diary of Sergeant Henry Keiser*



Presentation Summary:

In September 1861, a 20-year-old printer named Henry Keiser departed the Pennsylvania mining town of Lykens, Pennsylvania with the town's Washington Rifle Company and marched off to join the 96th Pennsylvania. Over the following years, Keiser meticulously kept a diary of his Civil War service, documenting battlefield horrors, painful marches, the ravages of disease, and all varied experiences of a soldier in the United States Army.

In this presentation, we will explore Keiser's war-time experiences and see the war through the perspective of a young Pennsylvanian who documented nearly every day of the Civil War.

Author BIO:

Jake Wynn is a public historian and tourism marketing professional. He has written extensively about the history of Pennsylvania's Coal Region over the last 15 years, with particular interest in the Civil War era. He previously served as the Director of Interpretation at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine and the Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum. He writes online at wynninghistory.com and is a co-host on the Public History with Justin, Jake, and Molly podcast. He currently lives in Frederick, Maryland.

Here is what you Missed in March!

Speaker: James Rada, Jr.

Topic: Battlefield Angels: The Daughters of Charity



Among the sisters, the most-experienced were the Daughters of Charity based in Emmitsburg, MD. When war broke out, they had already been caring for the sick for decades. However, the brutality of the war would test even their abilities as they ran hospitals, served on troop transports and provided care in battlefield hospitals and ambulances. They even had their own Central House occupied by armies from both sides of the war.

Prez Sez:



We are closing in on the end of our 2025-2026 season! April will be our second to last meeting before the summer break and we were thrown for a bit of a loop. I am sad to say that our original presenter is no longer able to join us either in person or over Zoom.

Fortunately, we have been able to secure the talents of Jake Wynn! Many of you may remember Jake from his time with our host, the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. Several years ago he moved over to Frederick Tourism but continued his work as a researcher and public historian through his blog, Wynning History, as well as his work with Civil War Pittsburg.

Due to having already told the membership that April 16 would be a Zoom meeting, we thought it would make things more confusing to change it back. As such, Jake's presentation will be over Zoom and you can participate in the comfort of your own home. While you will be getting the link in your email, I have also included it here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87805477532?pwd=dqk8PTVfQOSmLE7JBbZA9LNxqTm3cA.1>

Again, we do apologize for all the confusion and the delay in this month's newsletter, but we are looking forward to seeing you all on Thursday, at 7pm on Zoom for our April 2026 meeting!

*Most Respectfully,
Matt Borders,
President. FCCWR7*

April Book Review By Matt Borders

“The Civil War in Coastal North Carolina” by John S. Carbone, N.C. Division of Archives and History, 175 pgs., notes, index, pictures, \$18.00 (paperback), ISBN: 0-86526-297-7. Review by Matthew Borders

One of the least discussed, but most important fronts of the American Civil War was North Carolina. Beginning with the coast, the United States Navy and Army were able to establish important foot holds for both blockade operations and penetration of the state’s interior in late 1861. These early successes opened a road to freedom for thousands but also established an early threat to Southern Virginia and the supply lines that fed both Richmond and the Army of Northern Virginia. Even with these significant setbacks, Confederate resistance continued in North Carolina both militarily and as a source of supply until the end of the war.

It was in August 1861 that Major General Benjamin Butler and Flag Officer Silas Stringham established the Federal presence at Pamlico Sound. This joint Army / Navy operation took Forts Hatteras and Clark and swatted aside the North Carolina “Mosquito Fleet”. This toe hold was later expanded upon in early 1862 with the Burnside Expedition, the largest joint operation of its kind up to that point. While many are aware of Ambrose Burnside’s tenure as a general in the Army of the Potomac, his actions in this campaign are what brought him to national attention. *The Civil War in Coastal North Carolina*, breaks these early war joint operations down into easy-to-understand chapters, while providing illustrations from some of the soldiers that served in these operations. The subsequent penetration of the North Carolina coast by Burnside’s men established a federal presence that remained for the duration of the war.

With relative safe havens being established in places like New Bern and Roanoke Island, Federal forces were inundated with those enslaved who had decided to free themselves. This influx of humanity tested the both the 1st Confiscation Act and the Lincoln Administrations resolve. It was fortunate that the Burnside Expedition had been deliberately raised principally from the seafaring New England states. While not initially intended, these states also tended to view the enslaved with sympathy, especially after being confronted by the horrors of the institution. Relief organizations spring up, first in the army, and later civilians who came to North Carolina specifically to help support and educate the refugees, white and black, that flocked to the flag of the Union. This was tacitly supported by the Lincoln Administration and became the basis for the Freedom’s Bureau in 1865.

The Civil War in Coastal North Carolina does a fantastic job intertwining both the extensive military campaigns of the region with the civilian stories. These were never separate issues during the Civil War, particularly in North Carolina. Here the United States military made its first large scale joint operations of the war and tested the legalities of freedom. The administration learned the limits of southern unionism and the extent of southern resistance. North Carolina, in many ways, was a microcosm of the greater war.

FCCWRT 25/26 Season Schedule

2026:

May 21, 2026: Dr. Brian Jordan - Marching Home

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>

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?>

Events at the NMCWM

There are many tours and programs throughout the Fall and Winter at the Museum. You can check these out at the NMCWM Civilwarmed.org or Heart of the Civil War websites for details and times.

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. Board elections were held in November, but there is always room for those who will help with our mission.

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

Members are encouraged to submit items for our newsletter. I'm always looking for events to add period themed events that may not be part of a battlefield schedule.

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!! 2.7K likes and 2.9K followers!

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 25-26 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/>.

2025-2026 Board of Directors

Matt Borders, President /Webmaster

Bob Smart, Vice President

Bob Kozak, Treasurer

Roberta Legdon, Secretary

Gary Dyson, Facebook

Lucy Tannozzini, At Large

Joe Collins, At Large

Tom Dumm, At Large

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