



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

300th Meeting, 32th Season

Volume 45, Issue # 9

May 19, 2022, 7:00 PM
Hosted on our partner the NMCWM YouTube channel

The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/user/nmcwm/videos>



Speaker: Susan Ashman, Park Ranger, and Historic Weapons Supervisor

Presentation Overview: Finding R.H. Weakley

This month Susan Ashton poses the very interesting series of historical questions; we've all heard the expression, "if walls could talk", but what about historic firearms? What could they tell us about the soldiers that carried them and the battles they fought? Join Park Ranger Susan Ashman as she unravels the mystery of a battle damaged 1853 British Enfield Rifle and the tragic story of Pvt. R.H. Weakley, CSA.

BIO: Ranger Susan Ashton is originally from Southern California, Susan served in the United States Air Force for 8 years as an Aircraft Hydraulic Systems Mechanic. She worked at Old Sturbridge Village for over 10

years as a costumed historic interpreter. Susan is the Lead Park Ranger and Historic Weapons Supervisor at Springfield Armory National Historic Site in Springfield, MA.

In Case you Missed it



During our April meeting of the Frederick County Civil War Roundtable with Mr. Harry Smeltzer, we hosted the event once again both live and streaming through our partners at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. Harry shared a most fascinating story to a viewing audience of 20 in person attendees and a large on-line audience viewing thru live streaming, a comparison based on historical documents from the time of McDowell's Plan for First Bull Run and discussing if he actually did achieve it. He probed in a detailed fashion the expectations and intentions of Brigadier General Irvin McDowell for the campaign which culminated in the battle of July 21, 1861. Through the use of existing and easily available primary documents and military theory of the day, he argued that the traditional interpretation of McDowell's "plan" and the reasons for its failure are in contradiction, and that he acted in accordance with what he intended to do, executed tactical strategies that were entirely congruent with the Union mindset and military doctrine during the time when the battle unfolded.



He left the audience to do our own deconfliction of the facts comparing what McDowell stated he was going to do to what he did, perhaps Post-Bull Run analyses of the facts yielded a flawed hypotheses that he did not succeed in the plan he devised. The large distinction between "a turning" and "a flanking".





Prez Sez:

Well, we have made it to another end of season. Following our May meeting the Frederick County Civil War Round Table will go into its summer break. Thank you for another great year and all the support you have given the round table as we have maneuvered through the health and technology challenges of our 2021-2022 season. We would not be here without you.

Our speaker this month is Susan Ashman, a colleague of mine from Springfield Armory National Historic Site, who has developed a great program on researching the story behind one of the historic arms in the armory's massive collection. With Susan being in Massachusetts, this will be a Zoom only meeting. So, head over to the National Museum of Civil War Medicine YouTube channel at 7pm on May 19, this is a story you won't want to miss.

Beyond our last official meeting however, we did want to try and get outside again as a group. As such, this coming June we are very pleased to announce that our own Gary Dyson will be leading a walking presentation in Mount Olivet Cemetery on the topic of his book, Confederate Row. I am looking forward to hearing about Gary's research and hopefully he will have some copies of the book there to boot. Stay tuned for details!

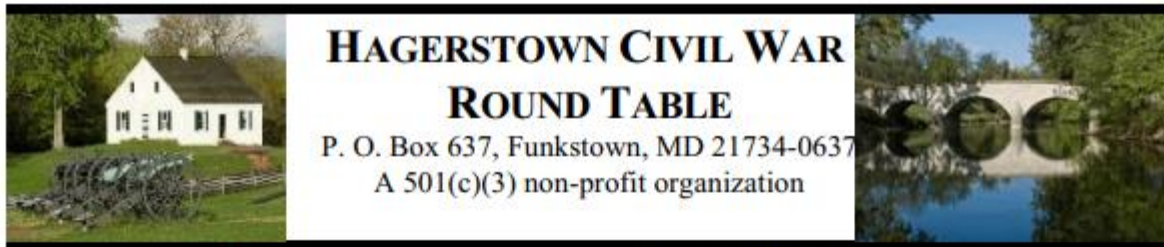
Finally, keep an eye on your email, as well as the Frederick County Civil War Round Table Facebook page, for information about our 2022-2023 season. We have a wide range of speakers lined up for you and an outing planned for our season opener on September 15, 2022.

It has been my pleasure to work with the board for you all this past season and we look forward to doing so again next fall. Have a happy and safe summer!

Most sincerely,

Matt Borders,

An invitation from a Fellow Round Table



HAGERSTOWN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

P. O. Box 637, Funkstown, MD 21734-0637
A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

JUNE 2022

ESTABLISHED 1956

- Date/Time: Saturday, June 25. Arrive 4:00, Dinner 5:00
Place: Pavilion at [Shepherd's Spring Retreat Center](#), 16869 Taylors Landing Rd., Sharpsburg (39.497988, -77.795118)
Speaker: Toby Mendez
Subject: Proposed sculpture of Clara Barton
Menu: Shepherd's Spring does not provide a menu for an event until 30 days prior to the event. The sample dinner menu from their website is: Salad Bar, Farro Salad with Roasted Cauliflower, Tuscan Herb-Marinated Chicken, Sweet Potato and Curried Chickpea Shepherd's Pie, Garlic and Lemon Smashed Potatoes, Carrots in Coriander Butter, Asparagus in Lemon Oil, Carrot Layer Cake, water, iced tea, various kinds of juice, coffee, and hot tea.
Cost: \$10 (yes, \$10) in advance payable at a meeting or send to our address above. **Payment must be received by Thursday, May 26.** Part of the funding is from a donation by one of our members.
Restrooms: Two cabins will be available for our use. Both are wheelchair accessible.

Picnic Speaker

Antonio Tobias (Toby) Mendez is a Maryland based sculptor with over 25 years of experience creating significant works of art. Born in Colorado in 1963, Toby spent most of his childhood in Japan and Thailand. In 1974, his family moved to Maryland where Toby attended sculpture classes and honed his fine art skills in a gifted and talented program for young artists. Through this intensive creative experience, at the age of 16, Toby chose sculpture as his career path.

After high school, Toby apprenticed with the Academy Award winning makeup sculptor John Chambers. He then entered the Art Institute of Chicago where he learned the processes of bronze casting practiced by sculptors and fine art foundries for centuries. This hands-on technical experience afforded Toby the early opportunity to cast his own works in bronze and to accept his first commissions. Toby also went abroad for a year in Spain where he studied the techniques used in creating large scale monuments.

In 1988, Toby set up his studio in the Maryland/DC area. Toby primarily focuses on the figure, combining a classical approach with a contemporary eye for site design. In addition to creating lasting legacies through public art, Toby continues to create personal works for acquisition by private collectors. Toby's untiring work as a sculptor for over 25 years, allows for the unique sensibility and insight in his work. This is well noted in his public works such as his Thurgood Marshall Memorial and The Teammates for the Boston Red Sox.

[Website](#)

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table Symposium 29-30 April (early bird tickets available until 1 Apr)

Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable of greater Philadelphia. OBCWRT has been in existence for 45 years, and like the Frederick County CWRT, is dedicated to educating and preserving the history of the Civil War. Rich Jankowski, our President, suggested I reach out to you.

Every several years we put on a symposium where we assemble nationally known speakers. This year with the cooperation of Rutgers University, we will be hosting on April 29/30 a symposium focusing on the western theater and the coordination of the army and navy in opening up the Father of the Waters, the Mississippi. In the east, by proximity of geography, there is a focus and familiarity with the eastern theater. This symposium is designed to provide a foundation of understanding for what was occurring in the west, especially during 1863. Arguably, what was happening in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana, was as critical to the outcome of the war as the events in the east. Grant's ultimate success in the east follows his incredible campaign in the west, often considered one of the greatest military campaigns in world history.

The speakers assembled for this event are renowned authors:

Chuck Veit, President Navy & Marine Living History Association, Author: Natural Genius: Brutus de Villeroi and the U.S. Navy's First Submarine, Handbook for Civil War Naval Reenactors. Will provide in depth analyses of the Battle of New Orleans. The Land Campaign for Vicksburg...

Terry Winschell, Retired Chief Historian of Vicksburg National Military Park, Author: The Civil War Diary of the Common Soldier, Vicksburg: Will cover Land campaign for Vicksburg – Grand Gulf, Jackson, Raymond, Champion Hill, Vicksburg. Navy/Army Coordination

Dr. Tim Smith, Author: Grant Invades Tennessee: The 1862 Battles for Forts Henry and Donelson, Rethinking Shiloh: Myth and Memory, Mississippi in the Civil War: The Home Front. Will cover for battles Leading up to Vicksburg. The Sinking of the Ironclads:

John Quarstein, Director Emeritus of the Monitor Center at Mariner's Museum in Newport News, Award winning author and preservationist: The Monitor Boys: The Crew of the Union's First Ironclad, Will cover the sinking of the Manassas, Cairo, Arkansas and Tecumseh. Red River Campaign ...

Dr. Gary Joiner, Author: The Red River Campaign, One Dam Blunder from Beginning to End, in depth discussion of the events surrounding the campaign against Shreveport Louisiana, and gateway to Texas



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!! 1,824 likes and 1,937 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.frederickcountycivilwar.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?>

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.

We are almost complete with our 21-22 season ! 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.frederickcountycivilwarrrt.org/>.

2021-2022 Board of Directors

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

Gary Dyson, Vice President, garyldyson@gmail.com

Ken Derren backer, Book Sales, kderren2@gmail.com

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

Todd Morris, Secretary, Newsletter, todd.b.morris@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.frederickcountycivilwarrrt.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