



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

307th Meeting, 33th Season

Volume 46, Issue # 7

March 16th, 2022, 7:00 PM National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland



Speaker: Ron Kirkwood

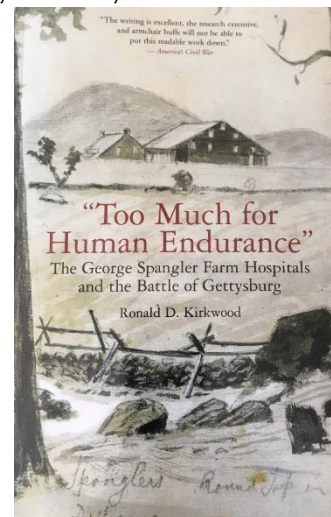
Presentation Overview: "Too Much for Human Endurance": The George Spangler Farm Hospitals and the Battle of Gettysburg

In Ron's work, "Too Much for Human Endurance" submits that the George Spangler farm was the most important farm in the Battle of Gettysburg, revealing factors that have been overlooked for generations. The presentation will also offer newly found information about Confederate Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Armistead's time at Spangler and what the Spangler family lived through while their farm was

occupied along with stories of the suffering and heroism of the surgeons, nurses, wounded and mortally wounded at the two hospitals on the Spanglers' land.

Presenters BIO: The author of "Too Much for Human Endurance: The George Spangler Farm Hospitals and the Battle of Gettysburg," which was published in June 2019. The book's two hardcover editions sold out and it is now available in paperback, audio and E-reader and he is working on a sequel, which will be published in 2024.

Kirkwood is retired after a 40-year career as an editor and writer in newspapers and magazines including USA TODAY, where he edited national magazines for USA TODAY Sports and was National Football League editor for USA TODAY Sports Weekly. He won numerous state, regional and national writing and editing awards during his career and managed the 32-person copy desk in Harrisburg when the newspaper won a Pulitzer Prize in 2012. Kirkwood is a Michigan native and graduate of Central Michigan University, where he has returned as guest speaker to journalism classes as part of the school's Hearst Visiting Professionals series. Kirkwood has been a Gettysburg Foundation guide at the George Spangler Farm Civil War Field Hospital Site since it opened in 2013. He lives in York with his wife of 46 years, Barbara.



In Case you missed it:



For our February presentation Chris Bryan explained in detail how the corps endured a bloody and demoralizing loss after coming within a whisker of defeating Maj. Gen. “Stonewall” Jackson at Cedar Mountain on August 9; suffered through the hardships of Pope’s campaign before and after the Battle of Second Manassas; and triumphed after entering Maryland and joining the reorganized Army of the Potomac. The men of this small corps earned a solid reputation in the Army of the Potomac at Antietam that would only grow during the battles of 1863. This unique study, which blends unit history with sound leadership and character assessments, puts the XII Corps’ actions in proper

context by providing significant and substantive treatment to its Confederate opponents. Bryan’s extensive archival research, newspapers, and other important resources, together with detailed maps and images, offers a compelling story of a little-studied yet consequential command that fills a longstanding historiographical gap. Chris Bryan’s Cedar Mountain to Antietam: A Civil War Campaign History of the Union XII Corps, July –September 1862 begins with the formation of this often-luckless command as the II Corps in Maj. Gen. John Pope’s Army of Virginia on June 26, 1862, (the II Corps, Army of Virginia becomes the XII Corps, Army of the Potomac).



Prez Sez:

Last month we had the pleasure of taking a look at the development of the Union XII Corps prior to the 1862 Maryland Campaign. This Corps remained with the Army of the Potomac through the summer of 1863 and was heavily engaged at the battle we will be touching on this month, Gettysburg!

As opposed to another sweeping discussion on the largest battle ever fought in the western hemisphere however, author Ron Kirkwood takes us to a single farm, the George Spangler Farm on the eastern edge of the battlefield. This was the site of multiple field hospitals during and following the battle, primarily for the XI Corps, but also for elements of the II Corps. Kirkwood's

research also touches on the wide variety of personalities from the Army of the Potomac's high command that stopped at the farm. This will be a great discussion on a lesser-known aspect of this famous battle.

Also last month I mentioned at the beginning of our meeting additional preservation threats that have been cropping up as of late. As we have discussed the 2,100-acre data center at Manassas was approved by Prince William County, VA, but a petition on the American Battlefield Trust page started last month, and a letter writing campaign to have this decision overturned will likely begin this spring. So watch out for more to come on that front. Additionally, there are numerous preservation projects being highlighted currently, not only on by the American Battlefield Trust, but also the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust. So check them out and see if there are any efforts or projects you can help with to save these fragile landscapes.

The Frederick County Civil War Round Table board looks forward to seeing you on March 16 and 7pm at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine!

*Very Respectfully,
Matt Borders,
President, FCCWRT*

March Book Review

Freedom's Soldier's: The Black Military Experience in the Civil War, Ira Berlin, Joseph P. Reidy, Leslie S. Rowland: Cambridge University Press, 1998. *xvi* + 212 pp. + notes and illustrations, \$24.99 (paperback), ISBN 978-0521634496.

Reviewed by: Matthew A. Borders

For Black History Month I was able to get back to some of my United States Colored Troops, or USCT research, and what better way to do so than with Freedom's Soldier's: The Black Military Experience in the Civil War. A fairly short work, this book is an excellent introduction to the subject and came out at a time when African American History and the involvement of black troops in the Civil War was still a relatively new field of research. The excellent pacing of this work, as well as its extensive end notes provide not only an introduction to the subject, but also deeper information and citations for those looking for more.

As opposed to taking a deep dive into the military engagements of the United States Colored Troops or focusing on a particular regiment, the authors instead split the book in two. The first chapter, or half of the book, focuses on the general history of the USCT looking at its early development with 1862 Confiscation Act and its formal founding in the spring of 1863 following the Emancipation Proclamation. This section was particularly interesting as it looked not only at the success of early recruiting efforts, but also at failed attempts to establish regiments of African Americans by abolitionist minded Federal generals prior to the Lincoln administration authorizing them.

The structure of the various regiments was also analyzed, with distinctions made between northeastern and Louisiana freeborn black men, versus the formerly enslaved. Regiments with significant local support, such as those coming out of abolitionist New England, or those with a tradition of community service, such as the Native Guards regiments of Louisiana, tended to voice abuses more readily and even had a handful of African American officers, though most of these were removed prior to wars end. Those regiments made up primarily of the formerly enslaved also fought back against abuses, but more directly through work stoppages or disobeying orders. As the war progressed however, USCT regiments of all backgrounds became more expressive in their complaints and direct with their resistance. Due to the continued resistance to slights in pay, being overworked and used for labor as opposed to combat, the United States Congress did finally pass laws equalizing pay, while Department commanders ordered work details to be spread over all troops, regardless of ethnic background. These improvements however often to time to be established.

The second half of the book has been given over almost entirely to the men themselves. An opening and a few narrative paragraphs set up the chapter written by the men of the USCT. These letters are important, not only for their age and firsthand accounting of everything from daily life, the injustice of pay disparities and combat, but also because they are so rare. With approximately 10% of United States forces being of African descent by the end of the Civil War, there were far fewer writers than other ethnic groups to record these observations. The authors have also taken the observations of many of those who harbored doubts or concerns about African Americans willingness or ability to fight to portray the deep interest both the army and the administration had in this topic.

In the end, the United States Colored troops proved themselves repeatedly under fire and through back breaking labor that was foisted upon them. Many of these men went on to fulfill important roles in their post war lives, but the desire to improve while still in the service should not be ignored either. Men of all backgrounds gathered together to learn, debate and educate each other, not just on the ways of war, but for the joy and freedom of learning itself. These regimental communities and relationships are what helped to drive the USCT forward during the darkest days of the war and helped to sustain them through the often-darker days of Jim Crow following the abandonment of Reconstruction after the war.

FCCWRT 22-23 Season Remaining Schedule

2023

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

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area seeks volunteers for the 2023 season at the historic Newcomer House, the Heritage Area's Exhibit and Visitor Center at Antietam National Battlefield. Volunteers handle daily operations at the house, including orienting visitors to the three-county Heritage Area and providing information about heritage tourism opportunities in the region. No specific knowledge or skills are required, though an interest in Civil War history and comfort interacting with visitors is encouraged.

Volunteers will receive orientation training on March 11, 2023, followed by mentor training during regular visitor hours. Volunteers are part of the National Park Service's Volunteers In Parks program, which offers participants many opportunities for behind-the-scenes access and special training classes or outings.

The Newcomer House is open 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. weekends in April, May, October, and November and daily June-September. Volunteers are asked to work a

minimum of six hours per month.

The Newcomer House, located at 18422 Shepherdstown Pike in Keedysville, is one of only two historic homes on the battlefield open to the public. Located along the Antietam Creek and astride the Boonsboro Pike, the house was part of a thriving mill complex in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Joshua Newcomer owned the property during the Battle of Antietam in September 1862, the bloodiest one-day battle in American history. It has been restored to its Civil War era appearance following the Secretary of Interior's standards.

Visitors are able to watch a 10-minute video highlighting places of interest throughout the Heritage Area, enter a parlor furnished to evoke the days leading up to the battle, and browse brochures from the Heritage Area's three counties. A cooperative agreement between the Antietam National Battlefield and the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area allows for programming, management, and maintenance of the Newcomer House. It is the official Visitor Center for the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, which encompasses portions of Washington, Frederick, and Carroll Counties.

Those interested in volunteering should contact Newcomer House coordinator Rachel Nichols: 240-308-1740, rachel@heartofthecivilwar.org.

2023 Antietam Speaker Series

Civil War Lecture Series at the Jacob Rohrbach Inn

These outdoors programs will be held at the Jacob Rohrbach Inn on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. To ensure adequate seating, please bring a chair. In case of inclement weather, lectures will be held at the Sharpsburg Christ Reformed Church of Christ. Parking is available on Main and Hall Streets. For updates and a full schedule of presenters & topics check our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/Antietam's-Jacob-Rohrbach-Inn or our blog at: www.jacob-rohrbach-inn.com/blog/ For further information call (301) 432-5079.

JUNE 7 - Alex Rossino & Gene Thorp

Topic: The Tale Untwisted

JUNE 14 - Richard D'Ambrisi

Topic: Interpretive Themes for Experiencing Antietam National Battlefield

JUNE 21 - Joe Stahl & Matt Borders

Topic: Civil War CDV's: Clues in the Cartes de Visite

JUNE 28 - Jim Rosebrock
Topic: Antietam Artillery Battle Lines

JULY 5 - Jim Smith
Topic: The Chambersburg Raid: Jeb Stuart's October 1862 Ride Around the Army of the Potomac

JULY 12 - Steve Stotelmyer
Topic: Sugar Loaf Mountain: The Overlooked Confederate Intelligence Failure of the Maryland Campaign

JULY 19 - Darin Wipperman
Topic: "His Example Will Not be Lost": The 30-day Civil War of Robert Hale Ives, Jr.

JULY 26 - Laura Marfut
Topic: The Battle for Maryland Heights in the Siege of Harpers Ferry

AUGUST 2 - Kevin Pawlak & Jon-Erik Gilot
Topic: John Brown's Raid: Harpers Ferry and the Coming of the American Civil War, October 16-18, 1859

AUGUST 9 - Brad Gottfried
Topic: The Antietam Paintings of James Hope

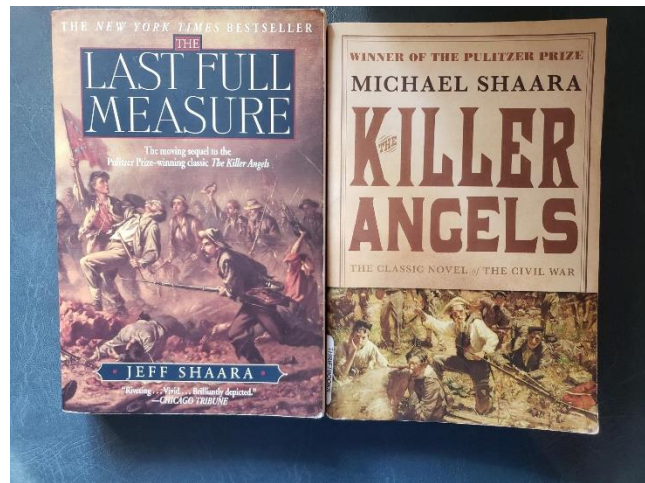
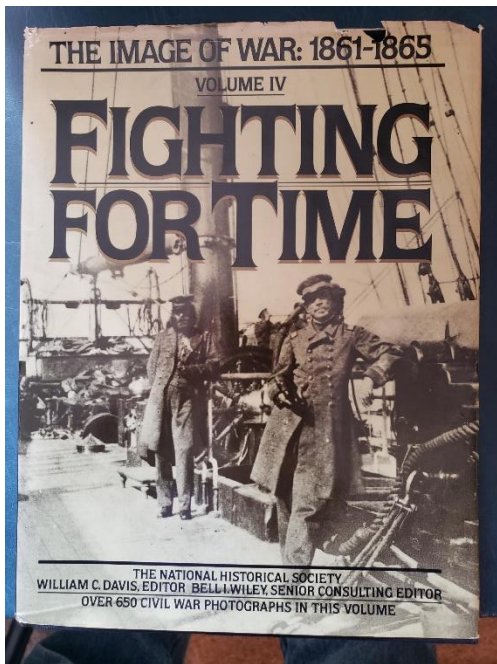
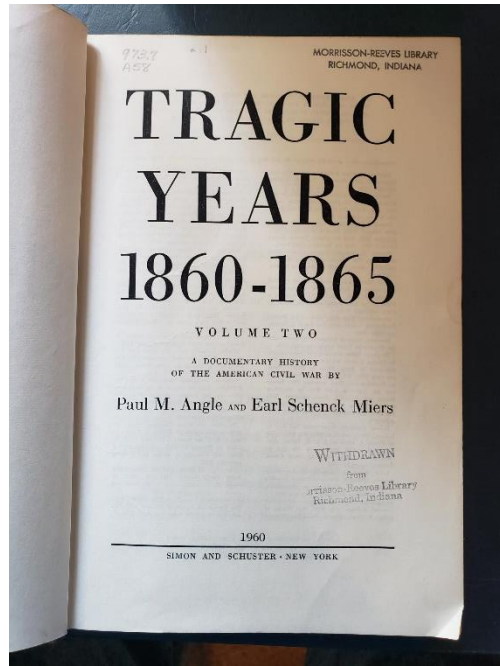
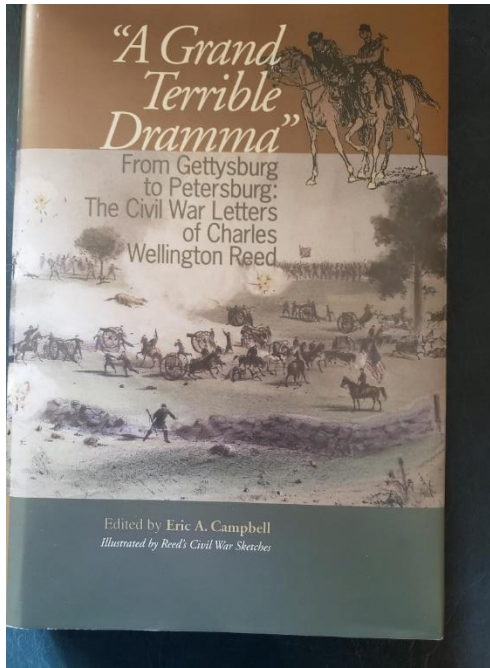
AUGUST 16 - Sarah Kay Bierle
Topic: John Pelham: Trained at West Point but Aiming Artillery for the Confederacy

AUGUST 23 - Michael Lang
Topic: "A Perfect Purgatory": Two Generals' journeys from Antietam Creek to the Trans-Mississippi

AUGUST 30 - John Schildt
Topic: The Life of Henry Kyd Douglas

March Book Raffle

(Each winner chooses a mug along with the book !)



NMCWM Partner's New Virtual Book Club

The National Museum of Civil War Medicine is happy to announce the launch of our new virtual book club--Between the Lines. Every other month from 7 PM - 8 PM we will be meeting via Zoom to discuss an assigned book.

Join us online March 14th as we celebrate Women's History Month with a discussion of Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy by Karen Abbott, with a special appearance by the author herself!

Register here: <https://www.civilwarmed.org/between-the-lines-book-club/>

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 alumni, 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!! 2.4K likes and 2.5K 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