

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

33<sup>th</sup> Season

Volume 46, Issue # 10

# Summer 2023 Newsletter National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland FCCWRT 2023-2024 Season

2023:

September 21 - Site visit to Mount Olivet Cemetery with Gary Dyson (May start earlier than normal like we did at South Mountain.)

October 19 - Bert Stevenson, Rise, and Fall of the GAR

November 16 ZOOM Meeting - Lynn & Julianne Herman, Civil War Florida

December 14 - Peter C. Miele, The Lutheran Seminary, and the Battle of Gettysburg

2024:

January 18 - Eric W. Buckland, Mosby vs. Cole's Cavalry

February 15 - Dr. Stephen A. Goldman - White and Black Servicemen during Reconstruction

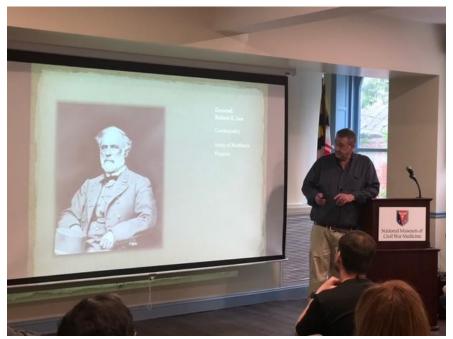
March 21 ZOOM Meeting - Stephen Romaine, The Case of Mary Bowser, the quintessential Spy

April 18 - Randy Drais, Rock Carvings @ Gettysburg

May 16 - Sarah Key Bierle, the New Market Campaign

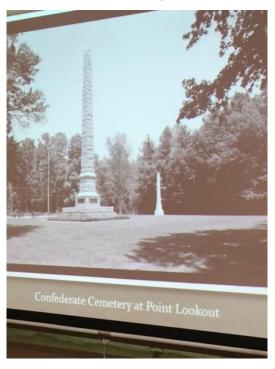
**Newsletter 1** 

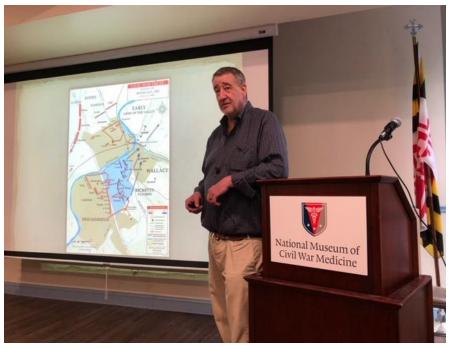
# Closing the Season, In Case you missed it:



Closing Our Season in May was a fantastic offering from Eric Wittenberg bringing to our members and guests the story of the Johnson-Gilmor Raid of July 1864. From inception, the raid was destined to fail. The timeframe for it was too short, the logistics were impossible, and the distance was too far. But that did not deter Robert E. Lee from ordering it—the siren call to try to free 15,000 Confederate prisoners of war was too strong to resist. However, as part of the mission, Maj. Harry Gilmor's column reached the outskirts of Baltimore, captured Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin, and

damaged an important rail line that connected Baltimore and Philadelphia. It's a story of an ambitions but flawed plan that has seldom been told but deserves to be.







## **Prez Sez:**

Happy summer from the Frederick County Civil War Round Table! It has been a busy and HOT summer already with some huge events, such as the 160th Commemoration of the Battle of Gettysburg. With the summer moving right along, the Frederick County Civil War Round Table is looking at restarting our summer fieldtrip. These outings were derailed due to the Pandemic and this summer we are excited to get it going again.

To restart this program, we are looking at a walking tour of Gettysburg on July 27. This would be a 6pm evening program covering the

street fighting in the actual town of Gettysburg during the larger battle. The Gettysburg Town Guides need a number of tour guests prior to the tour. That being said, I need to hear from you by 7-20-23 if you plan to attend, which is a week before the proposed event, so that we can get the guide the number of attendees. So if you want to join us, shoot me an email at mborders@comcast.net by 7-20-23. We will meet at 6 PM at 35 Carlisle Steet, Gettysburg, PA 17325 prior to the tour. Hope to hear from you soon and if not, we will see you this coming September at Mt. Olivet Cemetery for our opening program of the season!

*Very Respectfully,* Matt Borders, President. FCCWRT

# **Book Report**

"If We Are Striking for Pennsylvania: The Army of Northern Virginia and the

Army of the Potomac March to Gettysburg"

Volume 1: June 3-21, 1863, Volume 2: June 22-30, 1863

By Scott L. Mingus Sr. And Eric J. Wittenberg. Savas Beatie – 2022, 2023

Most coverage of the Eastern Theater of the Civil war jumps from the overwhelming Confederate victory at Chancellorsville (maybe taking a quick glance at Brandy Station) up to the climactic three days near Gettysburg. This book begins the coverage of the neglected two months and 150 miles between these two events. Eric Wittenberg and Scott Mingus, who have each already made great contributions to the scholarship of the Eastern theater of the Civil War have combined to produce what will be a key study of this period.

Volume 1 begins with the opposing forces in Central Virginia resting and reorganizing. It begins with a section that is very useful, but often neglected in large works. The '*Dramatis Personae*' provides a brief synopsis of the people that will play key roles in the upcoming campaign. Some are names well known, others range from clerks, mothers, shopkeepers, and Cabinet members who provide insight into the vast story that will be unfolding. It then begins day by day coverage of the period from June 3 to the 21st. It describes in good detail the growth of the Federal Cavalry arm, the concern of Washington over their senior commanders and the attempt by Lee to move the conflict away from its established line along the Rappahannock. It provides good maps to help the reader visualize the movements while it describes the sequence of movements and battles along the way. It describes the movements and the battles and skirmishes that occurred as Lee attempted to position his army for his next foray north of the Potomac. The volume does leave you with the armies spread out between the Rappahannock and Susquehanna rivers, but that should be expected because this is the first of two volumes that the authors and publisher correctly decided would be needed to adequately cover these grand movements.

In Volume 2 Wittenberg and Mingus do not let us down. They continue their coverage of the march of the opposing armies thru the hills and rolling countryside of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania all the way up to the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg and to the concentration at Gettysburg. They continue their excellent coverage of the various tentacles of the two armies move across the countryside. There are vivid descriptions of many actions that took place during the wide-ranging campaign. From Milroy's forces evacuating Winchester and ending up in Hancock, through the exploits of JEB Stuart touching Rockville and Westminster in the east and Ewell's troops ending up on the Susquehanna at Wrightsville to see the great bridge burn in their faces.

The two authors work well together to create a smooth narrative. They have excellent and consistent maps spread throughout the text to assist in tying everything together. For those who need to put the book down and come back to it later there is an appendix in each volume providing a short summary of each days events for the Federal and Confederate armies. In summary this study will be a central part of the Gettysburg Campaign scholarship for years to come.

# 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: <a href="www.facebook.com/Antietam's-Jacob-Rohrbach-Inn">www.facebook.com/Antietam's-Jacob-Rohrbach-Inn</a> or our blog at: <a href="www.jacob-rohrbach-inn.com/blog/">www.jacob-rohrbach-inn.com/blog/</a> For further information call (301) 432-5079.

#### 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

## **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 <a href="mailto:antietaminstitute.org">antietaminstitute.org</a> or email us at <a href="mailto:info@antietaminstitute.org">info@antietaminstitute.org</a> or email

## **Our NMCWM Partner links**

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

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

# **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 2.6K 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: <a href="http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/">http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/</a>

#### **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.

<u>TO</u> explore the many facets of the Civil War from the battlefield to firstperson narratives, including guest lectures by writers and historians.

<u>TO</u> support historical projects and activities aimed at increasing public interest and appreciation of our Civil War history, both locally and nationally.

Please consider supporting the Round Table during the 23-24 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 <a href="http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/">http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/</a>.

#### 2022-2023 Board of Directors

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

Vacant, Vice President

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

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

Ken Derrenbacher, Book Raffle, kderren3@gmail.com

Gary Dyson, At Large, <a href="mailto:garyldyson@gmail.com">ggmail.com</a>

Lucy Tannozzini, At Large, Ilucyzzini@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)	Tossroads of The Civil
STREET ADDRESS	
EMAIL ADDRESS/ADDRESSES	
BEST PHONE NUMBER TO REACH ME	
NOTE: We will protect your privacy. None of the above information	on will be shared.
ANNUAL DUES: Individual - \$30; Family - \$50 (Please make check p	payable to FCCWRT)
AMOUNT PAID \$ DATE	
$\square$ 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.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org