



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

311th Meeting, 35th Season

Volume 47, Issue # 4

16 December 2023, 7:00 PM National Museum of Civil War Medicine 48 E. Patrick St, Frederick, Maryland



Speaker : Pete Miele

Presentation Overview: The Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg: The Civil War, Inside and Outside

While the Civil War was fought outside, the conflict originated in schools, churches, and other places where ideas were shared and debated in the early nineteenth century. Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center, located in Schmucker Hall (the original building of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, constructed in 1832), is the preeminent place to ponder the conflicts that led to

the fracturing of the nation.

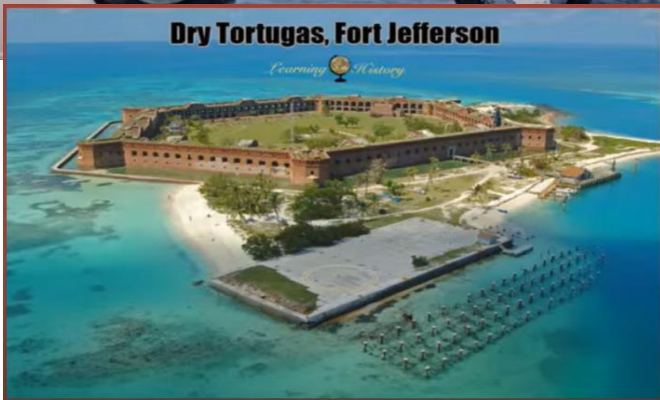
For almost thirty years, within the walls of the building, seminarians from north and south debated notions of freedom and what it meant to be an American. On July 1, 1863, these debates came, literally, to the back door of the Seminary as the Battle of Gettysburg erupted around the structure. Following the battle, the building was transformed into a hospital, inside which hundreds of wounded soldiers convalesced over two and a half months. This presentation promises to shed new light on the history of the Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg, and oft-overlooked topics in Civil War history.

Presenters BIO: Pete Miele is a proud native of northern New Jersey. After graduating from Ramapo College of New Jersey with a degree in History and Secondary Education, he began his career in secondary education, teaching American History, World History, and American Studies. In 2013, fulfilling a long-time dream, Pete relocated to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, obtained a MA in Applied History from Shippensburg University, and found employment with the new Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center. For seven years, he worked at the Museum in various roles in education and operations and, in 2020, was named the Museum's Executive Director, the position he currently holds. A frequent lecturer, Pete has presented at national conferences of the Society of Civil War Historians and the American Association of State and Local History. In fall 2021, Pete began work towards a PhD in American Studies at Penn State, Harrisburg. His interests include 19th century history, environmental and medical history, and historical memory.

In case you Missed it:



Generals Finegan & Colquitt





Prez Sez:

As we head into December, we are now well into the holiday season! The Board of the Frederick County Civil War Round Table hopes that you and yours had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the festivities to come. As we have done in the past, the meeting this month has been moved up a week, to the second Thursday in December, the 14th. The usual start time of 7pm at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine still applies. We hope everyone can make it! Our speaker this month is the executive director of the Seminary Ridge

Museum in Gettysburg, PA. While he intends to tell us all about the facility and its importance to the first day of fighting at Gettysburg, as well as its role as a hospital throughout and after the battle, I hope all of you get a chance to actually visit the museum. It is an excellent facility with multiple floors of exhibits and even the opportunity to view Gettysburg from the famous cupola. I have had the pleasure of visiting and I highly recommend it, especially as we get into the colder months when it's not quite as conducive to walk the battlefield.

As last month was a zoom meeting, thank you by the way for the great turnout, we lost a month to be able to turn in dues. So if you still need to, see our Treasurer Bob about getting squared away for this season. With that I again want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and I look forward to seeing everyone this coming December 14, at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

Happy Holidays!

*Very Respectfully,
Matt Borders,
President, FCCWRT*

December Book Review

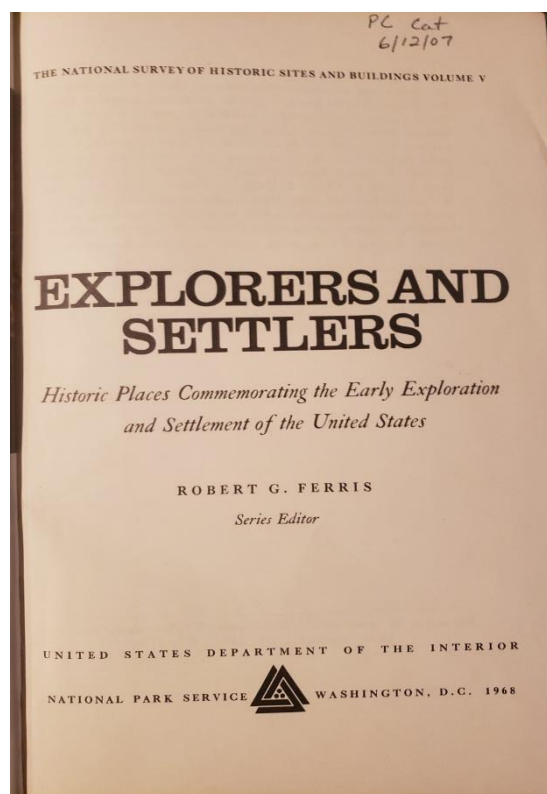
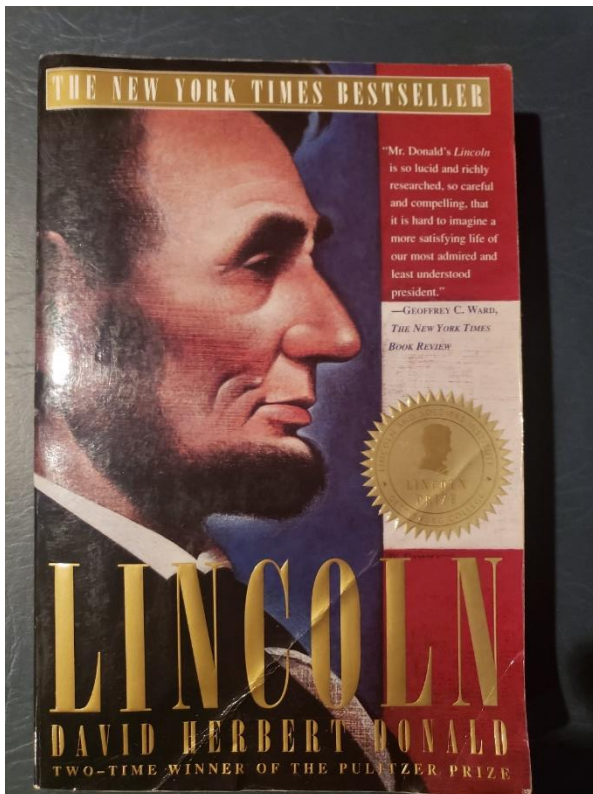
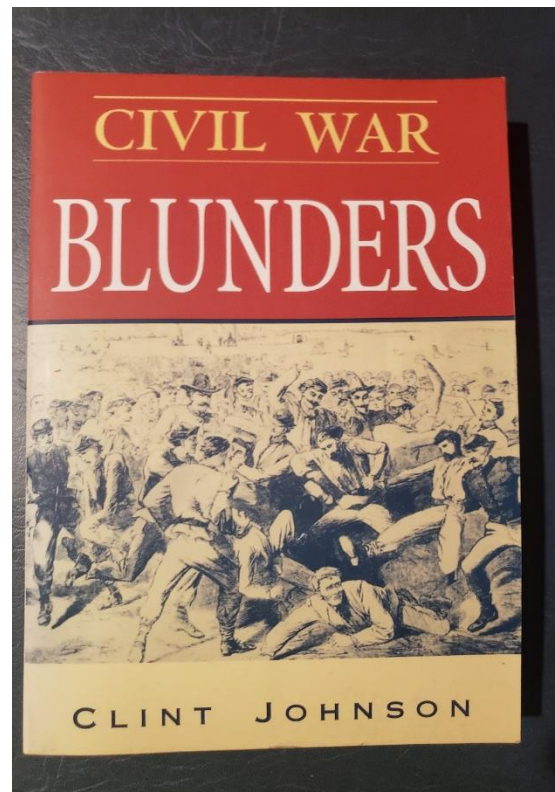
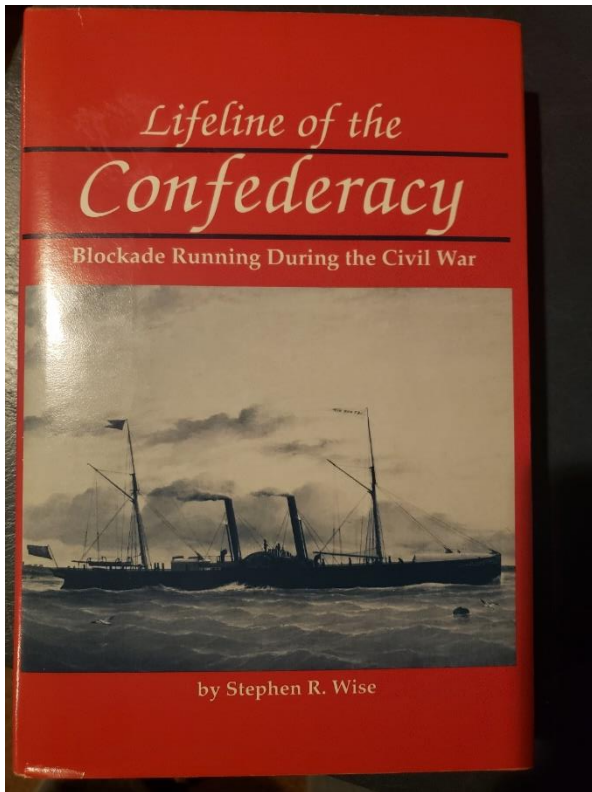
Calamity at Frederick: Robert E. Lee, Special Orders No.191, and Confederate Misfortune on the Road to Antietam

Alexander B. Rossino: Savas Beatie – October 2023, 169pp +notes, maps, and images. \$18.95 (paperback) ISBN: 978-1611216905 .

Reviewed by Bob Smart

Following up his and Gene Thorp's coverage of General McClellan and the Union handling of the famous 'Lost Order 191' in 'The Tail Untwisted' [reviewed in the February 2023 newsletter] Alex Rossino has covered the issuance and loss of that document from the Confederate side. He goes into great detail about its creation and structure by Lee's staff as well as examining other correspondence that Lee was creating at the same time which helps explain why Lee was rethinking some of his mission objectives of the Maryland operation. He then describes the process of distribution of the order. The preceding may seem routine and mundane, but it is important in understanding the whole story and provides insight into the often-hidden process of how orders were created at a headquarters. But now we get to the core of Rossino's detective work and analysis. Using multiple sources and providing good maps to help those unfamiliar with the area visualize the scenes, he lays out a very possible explanation of how the orders were lost and discovered. He admits it is not the only possible explanation and admits there is no single 'smoking gun' that will end all future speculation, but he does present a solid, well thought out proposal about who, how, and where the orders were lost and found. In the process of creating the thesis he destroys two long repeated stories about the reception of the orders at McClellan's headquarters. He utterly destroys the story we have often heard that the veracity of the orders was confirmed by a staff member who recognized Chilton's signature because he had dealt with him before the war. Rossino provides copies of Chilton's signature from the orders and other sources showing that the signature on the captured orders was a copy of Chilton's signature made by someone else. He also throws into question the story of Lee finding out about the capture 'from an unnamed Maryland citizen' and McClellan exclaiming 'With this document I can beat Lee'. I will not spoil future readers enjoyment of discovering the name of the person who Rossino suspects of losing the orders other than to say it is not someone I had previously considered but with the information presented I wonder how I never thought about this person in the past. As a final note, the reader should not neglect the two appendices provided. They provide interesting and detailed information that enhance the total picture presented by Rossino. The fact that he has provided so much information in such a concise format as this book shows that it is possible to create a well-researched and total story in a very reasonably sized and enjoyable read. A last personal note about books in general. It matter where and how you buy your books. When you purchase books from Amazon you can be hurting the publisher and author of the book. Amazon (and any very large distribution company) forces deep discounts on their smaller suppliers which reduces the authors royalties and the publishers profit margin. While very large publishing houses can absorb these discounts (and even plan for them) on large run best sellers, the smaller publishers, and authors that we depend on for our 'specialty books' cannot. So please buy 'as close to the source as possible. I prefer to buy either directly from the author (Which also gives you a chance to get the book signed) or from the publishers website. I have found that the specialty Civil War publishers provide excellent customer service and newly released books can often get the book to you faster than Amazon.

December Book Raffle





11 Park Pamphlets, & Pamphlet on Fortifications

FCCWRT 2023-2024 Season

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 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.

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-Y7aEZsXEBhRhEKig?>

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!! 2.6K likes and 2.7K 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.

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 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 <http://www.frederickcountycivilwarrt.org/>.

2022-2023 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