



Banner of the Blue and Gray

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

314th Meeting, 35th Season

Volume 47, Issue # 7

21 March 2024, 7:00 PM National Museum of Civil War Medicine's YouTube live streaming at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@nmcwm>



Speaker: Matt Borders

Presentation Overview: The Spy Game in Civil War Maryland

Matt's presentation will be on the important and influential use of spies in Maryland during the Civil War by both Union and Confederate forces. The presentation focuses primarily on Central Maryland as it was the highway of three separate Confederate invasions and looks at some of the major personalities both in and out of uniform that were operating throughout the region. The Spy Game in Maryland during the Civil War was a microcosm of the war itself with people of all backgrounds becoming involved in this risky venture. Neighbor distrusted neighbor, and everyone was suspected. Come hear how these first steps in military intelligence gathering led to a

professionalization of the practice as the war continued and why many of the nation's players in intelligence today trace their origins to the Civil War.

Presenters BIO: A graduate of Michigan State and Eastern Michigan University, Matthew Borders holds a BA in United States History with a focus in the American Civil War and a MS in Historic Preservation. Following graduation he taught at Kalamazoo Valley Community College before accepting a position with the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program. He worked as the historian for the ABPP for six years, during which time he became a certified battlefield guide at Antietam National Battlefield and Harpers Ferry National Historical Site.

Currently, Matthew is a Park Ranger at Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick, Maryland, a founding member of the Antietam Institute and president of the Frederick County Civil War Round Table. He, along with fellow guide, Joe Stahl, have also published the Faces of Union Soldiers series.

In case you Missed it:



During our February program, Dr. Stephen Goldman deftly addressed his topic, “In One More War to Fight: Union Veterans’ Battle for Equality through Reconstruction, Jim Crow, and the Lost Cause”. He addressed over 20 in person members and guests, along with those others online via the National Civil War Medicine YouTube live stream, on his extremely unique sample population of Civil War Veterans, derived from a writing contest shortly following the conflict. His in-depth research into the lives of each of these heroic individuals yielded an extremely unique perspective on the reasons for which they fought, and those things that touched them in their lives. For many, their obligation to the nation had only begun in 1865. The body of research highlighted in the strongest terms how they were irrevocably changed by all they'd seen,

done, endured, and accomplished, Union servicemen of both races shouldered “the unfinished work” they knew would be as bitter, divisive, and perilous as the Civil War itself. Stephen also addressed the historic Freedmen’s Bureau, and how its efforts in education and enfranchisement for those previously enslaved.





Prez Sez:

Alright gang, first things first, the March 2024 secession of the Frederick County Civil War Round Table will be a Zoom meeting, we will not be at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. Additionally, our speaker, Stephen

Romaine, is overseas and is not able to speak on his topic “The Case for Mary Bowser, the Quintessential Spy”. As such, we decided to stick with the spy topic, and I will be giving my “Civil War Spy Game in Maryland” presentation. As I will be away for an NPS training during our normally

scheduled meeting, we recorded the presentation ahead of time, so unfortunately you will not be able to engage in the comments for Questions and answers. Remember, all you will need to do on March 21 is checkout the National Museum of Civil War Medicine YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@nmcwm>.

Speaking of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, our hosting site is more than just the museum galleries. They also have a wide variety of programs and lectures that they host both at the museum as well as at their satellite sites throughout the year. Be sure to checkout:

<https://www.civilwarmed.org/events/> for more details.

The museum is not the only organization with special events and programs coming up. Besides the National Park Service and State Parks mentioned in last month’s newsletter, there is also the Antietam Institute, which is hosting the Antietam at Arlington bus tour on March 23. There are still seats available, so if you are interested, go to:

<https://antietaminstitute.org/programs/> , seats are still available on the bus!

Hope you all can join us on March 21 for the Zoom presentation!

*Very Respectfully,
Matt Borders,
President, FCCWRT*

March Book Review

Colonels in Blue: Union Army Colonels of the Civil War – The Mid-Atlantic States Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware and The District of Columbia, Roger D. Hunt.

Stackpole Books, 2007. 250 pgs., images, index, bibliography, \$29.95 (hardcover), ISBN 978-0-8117-0253-9. Reviewed by: Matthew A. Borders

Today, many are familiar with Ezra Warner's famous *Generals in Blue* and *Generals in Gray* books, documenting the hundreds of Union and Confederate general officers during the American Civil War. These works, as well as the accompanying *More Generals in Gray* are an excellent starting point for anyone interested in the commanding officers of the war. What is less familiar to most is the *Colonels in Blue* series by Roger Hunt. This five-book series gives information on every colonel in the United States Army over the course of the Civil War. To take on such a massive project, Roger Hunt broke his books down by region. In the case of this review, the Mid-Atlantic states were covered in the third book of the series. Much like the *Generals* series by Warner, and Hunt's own *Brevet Generals in Blue*, the *Colonels in Blue* series provides information about the officer in question. These are not full-blown biographical essays, like those in Warner's works, but instead, due to the vast number of officers that were covered, only the most pertinent information has been put down. The information provided includes when the officer mustered into Federal service, any promotions they had during their service, and any injuries sustained, as well as when they left the service. Additionally, Roger Hunt has made a real effort to provide a picture with the name and information, so as to give more life to these men.

As implied in the opening paragraph, where the *Colonels in Blue* series really shines is as a research collection. You absolutely can read these books cover to cover, and a list of rank abbreviations given at the front of the books, to help aid in understanding makes this all the more possible. However, this series is not page after page of biographical information. Instead, almost all personal details of the individuals have been removed in favor of the military details exclusively. A few of the Colonels have details of their lives before or after the war thrown in, but this seems more random than deliberate. For fast, very tight details on Federal colonels during the Civil War it is a great series of work with.

The only issue the *Colonels in Blue* series suffers from is the lack of more personal details for most entries that would keep a reader engaged. As this series is covering hundreds more subjects than Warner's books did, there seems to be a real desire to keep the ball rolling and not get hung up on details. Again, this makes it a great reference source, but even with the images of the subjects, it's hard to determine who these men were with just a picture and their record of service. If you are researching Federal colonels and are looking for a quick reference, go no further than this series. If you are looking for more specifics on the life and times of your favorite regiments commanding officers however, you would probably be better served looking up the unit history or a dedicated biography of the officer.

2024 Civil War Lecture Series **sponsored by the Jacob Rohrbach Inn**

Our 2024 Civil War Lecture Series schedule is out. We have another great lineup of guest speakers and outstanding topics. We have made a couple of changes this year, as we moved to Monday nights so we can be indoors at St. Paul's. If you are able, please post this in your newsletters or inform your members during your next meeting. We look forward to seeing you this summer.

Civil War Lecture Series sponsored by the Jacob Rohrbach Inn

This year the programs will be held indoors at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. 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.

2024 Speaker Schedule:

June 3 - Jim Rosebrock - The Empire State at Antietam.

June 10 – Dr. Gordon Dammann – Medicine between 1865-1914; War is still Hell

June 17 - Kevin Pawlak and Dan Welch – "Never Such a Campaign" - The Battle of Second Manassas, Aug. 28-30, 1862

June 24 - George Franks - Army of the Potomac: After Pickett's Charge

July 1 – Dr. Brad Gottfried - "At the Forefront of the Armies: The Role of the Cavalry During the Maryland Campaign"

July 8 - Sharon Murray - Dixon S. Miles Reconsidered

July 15 – D. Scott Hartwig - One Man's Experiences: Major Rufus Dawes and the Battle of Antietam

July 22 – Dr. Alex Rossino - Longstreet's March to Hagerstown and Back, Sept. 11-14, 1862

July 29 - Dana Shoaf – "Gutbusters": The Evolution of Civil War Ambulances

August 5 – Dr. Tom Clemens - Washington County's Forgotten Military Hero.

August 12 – Dr. Jim Broomall "The hills were black with spectators': Civilians on the Antietam Battlefield".

August 19 - Steve Stotemyer - The Legend of Barbara Fritchie

August 26 - John Schildt and Laura Marfut - "Roads to Antietam"

FCCWRT 2023-2024 Season

2024:

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.

We are in the process of scheduling the 24-25 Season – It will be announced soon on the Newsletter and our FB Page

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/>

Vermont Green Mountain Civil War Roundtable Tour Opportunity

Gail Blake from the Vermont Green Mountain Civil War Round Table (GMCWRT) runs a civil war bus tour every year, and she is in the midst of planning this year's trip scheduled for 02-06 May.

The Event Description:

General Meade and his Pipe Creek plan will be our main focus, with a few other surprises mixed in. The trip will take travel through Civil War Baltimore and the surrounding area.

Day Three will be in the Gettysburg area, still working on that (I'm hoping there's some CW railroad history involved too!). Cost will include RT deluxe motorcoach transportation breakfast and lunch each day of our tour, three dinners, all guide and admission fees, four nights hotel room, information packet, onboard entertainment, refreshments, and lots more!

The trip is open to everyone with a sense of humor and likes to eat (a lot), so bring a friend! The Events are always fun, informative, and well planned.

If interested in joining, please contact Gail directly
(auntis@comcast.net)

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?>

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.

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 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