

The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

September 2022



www.firstdefenderscwrt.us

President's Message

The summer has been unusually warm, and many days have been unseasonably hot, made more unbearable by a persistent drought. All around us, the political rhetoric and 24-hour news cycle have been no less intemperate as we grow closer to an off-year federal election where, so we are told, the future of democracy is at stake as the penultimate battle of good versus evil will decide our future.

The lack of rainfall has turned our lawns brown and crops in the field lack their usual robustness. Legend tells us, though, the rapidly approaching fall will be filled with vibrant hues as leaves stage their final pageant before making way for what the Farmer's Almanac promises will be a hard winter.

As we look around the Round Table campfires, we see that many of our sister organizations have become but a shell of their former selves, victims of a pandemic that is still among us or an aging Boomer population that has long valued the study of history. Like the aftermath of a Civil War battle, some of the faithful are, sadly, no longer here to answer the roll call.

But, enough negativity! My heart overflows and my pulse quickens to know the start of the First Defenders Civil War Round Table campaign is almost upon us. A time to see old friends again after so many months, and an opportunity to make new ones. A time to indulge our mutual passions for history and escape, if only for an hour or two, the harangues of a world seemingly gone mad.

It is time for the 26th Campaign...

Craig

Round Table Business

President Craig Breneiser opened the meeting at Giannotti's Country Restaurant with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. 29 members attended the meeting in person, and three more joined virtually for the meeting and program.

Vice President Quattrochio reported on a 13-to-1 match campaign by the American Battlefield Trust to benefit four different sites. Additionally, this evening's speaker, Dan Welch, has suggested supporting the Gettysburg Foundation. A motion was made and seconded to donate \$100 to each organization with the Foundation contribution to be made in Mr. Welch's name.

President Breneiser noted it was time to elect officers for the 26th Campaign that will begin in September. Any member is eligible to hold any office, and the President asked for nominations. Wally Heimbach made a motion, seconded by Joe Schaeffer, that all current officers continue in their roles; motion passed by acclamation.

Officers for the 26th Campaign

President: Craig Breneiser
Vice President: Mark Quattrochio
Treasurer: Tim Antosy
Secretary: Linda Zeiber
Preservation: Mark Quattrochio
Events Chairman: Joe Schaeffer
Book Raffle: Gary Hertzog
Meal Captain: Kathy Little
Webmaster: Lisa Breneiser

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$ 2,600.08 as of May 10th with \$551 available for preservation. Our membership for the campaign is 53.

As of August 15th, the treasury balance is \$2,084.21 with \$461 available for preservation; also included in that number is the \$150.00 in preservation for a special project.

Book Raffle News

Nine books were available for the evening's raffle.

Joe's Jaunts

Joe Schaeffer reported it is hoped a Jaunt will be able to be scheduled in the fall.

Programs

Joe Schaeffer also reported the speaker line-up for the 26th Campaign is progressing. Chris Mackowski will again be our lead-off speaker in September, and the rest of the schedule is being filled out. Joe noted two schedule changes: the October program will be moved to Friday, October 28th, in order to feature historian Timothy B. Smith, and the November program will be pushed back one week to November 15th to avoid a conflict with Election Day.

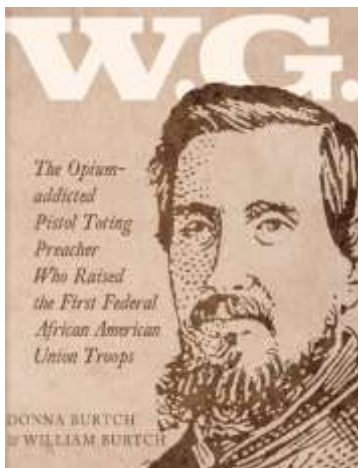
A Simple, Dignified Final Resting Place for a Great American

Many of the First Defenders fondly recall the memorable presentations of the incomparable Ed Bearss who graced our "Table" many times. Anyone who followed Ed on a battlefield tour was absolutely certain he would always be a step ahead of the Grim Reaper. Alas, it was not to be so, and Ed departed this world nearly two years ago. He rests eternally with his beloved wife, Margie, in the Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery in Rankin County, Mississippi. No towering obelisk, no equestrian statue and no fancy vault for this Marine. A simple granite headstone for Margie and Ed and a Department of Defense tablet proudly proclaiming his service to the country he loved and spent a lifetime passing its historical legacy onto new generations. *Semper Fi!*



Photo Courtesy of Errol Steffy

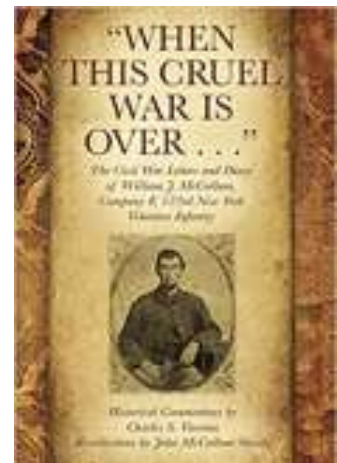
New Reading



Donna and William Burtch would be honored if you checked out their new biography (Sunbury Press) on the story of the remarkable 1st USCT and their complicated, staunch abolitionist officer, W.G. Raymond. The Burtches are sibling authors and W.G. was their 3x great-grandfather. His courageous pioneering unit would be ghosted by the War Department despite being authorized by President Lincoln. W.G. paid for troop provisions himself, never to be repaid.

Click on <https://wgthebook.com/> to learn more!

Sergeant William McCollum recounts the life of a Union infantry soldier marching with generals Hooker and Sherman. He first saw action on the Orange Turnpike in Chancellorsville, was involved in recapturing Culp's Hill at Gettysburg, was pinned down in the open field at Resaca, was a picket running from Hood's assault at Kolb's farm and faced Stewart's surprise attack at Peach Tree Creek – all were among the moments of terror William experienced. He fought disease, scarcities of food and clothing, brutal cold, scorching heat, relentless rain, endless mud, and losing comrades, all the while maintaining a positive tone in letters home so as not to worry family and friends. *When This Cruel War is Over* contains 94 letters spanning the years 1862 – 1865 and the 1865 diary of Sergeant McCollum. The letters speak not only to camp life and marching orders, but to concerns for his family and friends back home on the farm. <https://outskirtspress.com/WhenThisCruelWarIsOver>



September Program

"Stonewall" Jackson at Gettysburg

"Oh, for the presence and inspiration of Old Jack for just one hour!" Words attributed to Stonewall Jackson's chief-of-staff Alexander "Sandie" Pendleton late on the afternoon of July 1, 1863 as the worn out and overwhelmed infantrymen of the Union I and IX Corps retreated through Gettysburg to a new defensive position on Cemetery Hill and General Richard Ewell determined a Confederate pursuit was not "practicable." From that moment until the present day, the ghost of Thomas Jonathan Jackson has continued to haunt the battlefield he never saw and which would have turned out far differently if he had.

But, would it have been so? Historians have begged the question for more than a century-and-a-half positing countless different scenarios had Jackson survived Chancellorsville including whether Gettysburg would have remained a sleepy Adams County town of which no one ever heard. Today, Emerging Civil War historian Chris Mackowski revisits the long-simmering parlor game of "Stonewall Jackson at Gettysburg."



Chris Mackowski, Ph.D., is a professor of journalism and mass communication at St. Bonaventure University, and is the historian-in-residence at Stevenson Ridge, a historic property on the Spotsylvania battlefield. A veteran volunteer at the Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park, Chris is also a co-founder of Emerging Civil War and the author or editor of an entire series of new writings from a new generation of Civil War historians. Chris has presented to the First Defenders many times and been the lead-off speaker for every campaign since 2018!

| Coming 26th Campaign Programs | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Date | Speaker | Program |
| 13 SEP 2022 | Chris Mackowski | <i>Stonewall Jackson at Gettysburg</i> |
| 28 OCT 2022 | Timothy B. Smith | <i>The Real Horse Soldiers: Grierson's Raid</i> |
| 15 NOV 2022 | Charlie Fennell | <i>Green's Brigade on Culp's Hill</i> |
| 13 DEC 2022 | Jim Remsen & Brad Upp | <i>Camp Discharge</i> |
| 10 JAN 2023 | Ev Binns | <i>**To Be Announced**</i> |
| 14 FEB 2023 | | <i>""To Be Announced**</i> |
| 14 MAR 2023 | Brad Gottfried | <i>Lee in the Gettysburg Campaign</i> |
| 11 APR 2023 | | <i>**To Be Announced**</i> |
| 9 MAY 2023 | Scott Mingus | <i>Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania</i> |

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!!

Giannotti's has raised the prices for the meals at our meetings. The price will now be \$31.00.

Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday, September 13, 2022
Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices for September are:

**Broiled Haddock
Grilled Chicken with Rice
Eggplant Parmesan**

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, September 9, 2022, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

***IMPORTANT NOTE* Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.**

****PLEASE NOTE: IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED IF YOU PAY IN THE APPROPRIATE DOLLAR AMOUNT. WE DO NOT HAVE A CHANGE DRAWER. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT \$50 OR \$100 BILLS IN PAYMENT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**



Our 26th Campaign!

FIRST DEFENDERS CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE MEMBERSHIP FORM 2022-2023

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

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I would like to have Civil War-related emails announcements received by the Round Table forwarded to me (Opt out any time by notifying the Webmaster.)

Annual Membership fee of \$25 is due by October 11, 2022.

Please make the check payable to The First Defenders CWRT and mail to:

**Lori Border
477 Chalfont Place
Reading, PA 19606**

(Or pay in person at the September or October dinner meeting!)

The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

October 2022



www.firstdefenderscwrt.us

President's Message

It was to be a new memorial to Confederate dead, one of the largest and most splendid ever sponsored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. A world renowned artist, the first Jewish graduate of the Virginia Military Institute and veteran of the Battle of New Market would be commissioned to design and create this new memorial.

Working from his studio in Rome, Moses Ezekiel would waive his commission but insist on complete design control. He would accept no suggestions from the UDC or anyone else for his master pièce de résistance.

And what a creation it was! The granite pedestal would feature 32 life-sized high-relief figures of mythical gods alongside southern soldiers and civilians. Two of the figures would even be African Americans: a "mammy" holding the infant child of a Confederate officer and a faithful slave following his young master off to war.

Ezekiel would inscribe in Latin, "Victrix causa diis placuit sed victa Caton." "The victorious cause was pleasing to the gods, but the lost cause to Cato," the great Roman philosopher and statesman renowned for his moral integrity.

Coats of arms of eleven Confederate and three border states would circle the base of a 32-foot shaft crowned with a bronze woman. So the sun will always shine on her face, the woman faces Dixie. Her right hand holds a pruning hook while leaning on a plow. A passage from Isaiah proclaims, "And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks." The left hand extends a laurel wreath toward the south as an acknowledgment of the sacrifices made by the living and the dead.

Dedicated in 1914, the *Washington Post* would praise its focus on peace, the future and the sacrifices made by the South over its fight for constitutional rights. A century later, it would be described as a pro-southern textbook illustrated in bronze. The Department of Defense Naming Commission says it is a problematic from top to bottom and needs to go.

Moses Ezekiel wanted to call his work "New South," but it really has no official name. Rather, it is most often called the "Confederate Memorial" or sometimes the "Confederate Monument." For not too much longer, it can still found at the center of Stonewall Jackson Circle surrounded by more than 400 Confederate soldiers who rest in peace in Section 16 of the Arlington National Cemetery, America's most hallowed ground.

And now you know the rest of the story...

Craig

Round Table Business

President Craig Breneiser called the September 13, 2022, meeting of the First Defenders CWRT at 7:35 p.m. kicking off our 26th campaign. Thirty-seven members and guests gathered at Giannotti's Country Manor. Ev Binns offered a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Craig welcomed 3 guests as well as a new member, Kerry Beans. We were all happy to see Mike Straus return to the fold. We were reminded of the absence of Roger Cotterill who remains in a care facility in Drums, PA. Roger is with us in spirit and misses being at the round table meetings. We all send our best thoughts and wishes to Roger.

Vice President Mark Quattroch made a brief presentation about the Coolidge Case which he and his medical unit of reenactors acquired recently. The following is a description that Mark shared:

In early 1863, Dr. Richard Coolidge, who was a Medical Inspector in the US Army Medical Department, came up with the idea of creating a Field Companion for the Army that would replace all of the other cases and hospital knapsacks. The design that he used was based on a British design that had a lower and upper compartment, was curved to fit tightly against your hip, and had both an over-the-shoulder and a waist strap.

The result was the US Army Field Companion or Coolidge Case. The drugs that were carried were scaled down to 10. This was used both on the battlefield and for sick call and was used at Gettysburg up to the end of the war.

The case was displayed for the first time at the Gettysburg Heritage Center on the weekend of September 10th. Shawn Dyer made the case.

Many thanks to Mark for bring the case in for us to view and for explaining its inception and use.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$1,911.03 as of September 3, 2022. Last meeting there was \$461.00 available for preservation. The unencumbered balance as of September's meeting stands at \$1717.03. Also included in that number is the \$150.00 in preservation for a special project.

Preservation

Welcome to a brand-new season for the Roundtable. Season 26 started with a bang with our September meeting and it was a very good turnout of members. We had a great first speaker for the season with Chris Mackowski and we raised **\$125** from our Book Raffle. We also started the season with \$137 in the Preservation fund as a carryover from last season.

During the meeting the Membership approved two donations to the American Battlefield Trust. The first donation **\$100** and it is going towards a Matching Grant of **\$13-\$1** to preserve land at Buffington Island, Upperville, Belmont, and Chickasaw Bayou. The second donation is **\$100** and is going towards a **\$10.50-\$1** Matching Grant for Chancellorsville Battlefield and saving the area around Dowdall's Tavern. The Trust has also partnered with the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust to work together to raise money for this project. The members present at the meeting also approved making this donation in the name of Chris Mackowski. Thanks to all of you for continuing to support our Preservation efforts.

Two pieces of news from Gettysburg. First, is the National Park Service is putting the finishing touches on the work they are doing at Devil's Den. No official announcement has been made yet on when Devil's Den will be open to the public. The second bit of news is Little Round Top is officially closed and will remain closed for a total of 18 months. We will keep everyone updated on these projects.

Book Raffle News

Gary Hertzog brought 8 books to raffle. He reported that 4 books were sold outright. He also pointed out that Chris Mackowski had books for sale from the Emerging Civil War. Gary is accepting donated books, but it would be wise to check with him before bringing them to a meeting.

The results from the Special Raffle this past May showed Harry Eisenbise winning the 3rd, 2nd, & 1st prizes. The 3rd prize, *Echoes of Glory*, was a 3-volume *Illustrated History of the Civil War*. 2nd prize, *The Photographic History of the Civil War* was a 10-volume set by Francis T. Miller. The 1st prize was a framed set of fans (CSA & USA) from the 75th Anniversary Reunion of the Battle of Gettysburg (1938). The Grand Prize, a framed print "Distant Thunder" (General Lee at Cashtown Inn) by Mort Kunstler was won by Deb Demarco.. Congratulations to Harry and Deb.

Joe's Jaunts

Joe Schaeffer announced the details for the fall jaunt to be held on November 5, 2022. LBG Sue Boardman will take our group on a walking tour of monuments beginning at the old parking lot for the original Visitors' Center to the Hancock Memorial. We will gather at the parking lot at 9 a.m. The tour will be 3 hours in duration and will be followed by our customary lunch and fellowship at a site to be selected. The fee for the guide will be shared by those who attend.

On the 1st Sunday in November, former Lancaster Mayor Charlie Smithgall will host a Gatling gun shoot on his farm in southern Lancaster County. Some of his extensive cannon collection will be fired as well as some mortars. He will also demonstrate the firing of a Lyle line-throwing gun. You can contact Charlie at 717-471-4000 for directions and details.

Programs

Joe Schaeffer announced further details regarding programs for the 26th campaign. He explained that the October meeting has been moved to Friday, October 28th in order to accommodate Timothy Smith who will be presenting a program about Grierson's Raid. The November meeting with Charlie Fennell has also been moved back to November 15th so as not to be held on Election Day.

Joe also shared with us the topic of Ev's program in January and the addition of Sue Boardman in our February time slot. Check the "Coming Campaign Programs" for the full lineup following in the newsletter.

Member Information

Please do not forget that membership fees (\$25) are due on or before the October meeting. Fill out the membership form and include it with your payment. You may mail this to Lori Border whose information is on the form. You may also bring it to the October meeting. We are able to provide top-notch speakers with your dues' money so don't forget to re-up your enlistment!

Website

Webmaster Lisa Breneiser announced that books for the raffle and for sale is being updated. Stay tuned. Check your website for pertinent information and fascinating articles.

Meal Captain

Kathy Little asked everyone to be aware that the last date to order meals for the October meeting will be noon on Tuesday, October 25th. The meeting has been moved from the second Tuesday of the month to Friday, October 28th to accommodate our speaker.

October Program

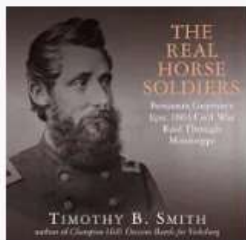
The Real Horse Soldiers: Grierson's Raid

featuring Timothy B. Smith, Ph.D.

"Make way for the screen's two top stars in their most outstanding roles! John Wayne and William Holden riding hell-bent for glory in the most daring adventure. Make way for the Horse Soldiers!"

So claimed the trailer for John Ford's epic 1959 filled with drama and a high stakes gamble based upon the daring real-life raid by Benjamin Grierson and his hand-picked cavalymen as part of the larger Vicksburg Campaign during the spring and summer of 1863.

Ford's "major motion picture" used cinematic license to chip away at historical accuracy (while adding the obligatory romantic interest of Constance Tower), but Timothy B. Smith's deeply researched and full-length study presents the REAL horse soldiers.



For a little more than two weeks, Grierson's raiders led Confederate pursuers through the entire state of Mississippi from Tennessee to Louisiana tearing up railroad tracks, burning bridges, freeing slaves and generally doing as much damage and creating chaos as possible. The raid diverted the attention of the Confederate high command while Ulysses S. Grant moved his entire Army of the Tennessee across the "Father of Waters" into the Mississippi heartland on his way to the eventual capture of Vicksburg.

John Ford's film promised daring adventure, but Doctor Smith's research has shown the real daring and adventure occurred nearly 100 years before Wayne and Holden faced off on the screen.

Timothy B. Smith is a faculty lecturer at the University of Tennessee-Martin and a former member of the National Park Service staff at Shiloh NMP. He holds a doctorate in history from Mississippi State University, and is the author of more than 15 books. Dr. Smith's volumes on Champion Hill: Decisive Battle for Vicksburg and The Real Horse Soldiers: Benjamin Grierson's Epic 1863 Raid through Civil War Mississippi are considered the definitive modern studies of these key components of the Vicksburg Campaign.



| Coming Campaign Programs | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Date | Speaker | Program |
| 10/28/22 | Timothy B. Smith | The Real Horse Soldiers/Grierson's Raid |
| 11/15/22 | Charlie Fennell | Green's Brigade on Culp's Hill |
| 12/13/22 | Jim Remsen/Brad Upp | Camp Discharge |
| 1/10/23 | Ev Binns | Lost 10 Commandments of the Civil War |
| 2/14/23 | Sue Boardman | Lincoln Statues Around the World |
| 3/14/23 | Brad Gottfried | Lee in the Gettysburg Campaign |
| 4/11/23 | TBA | |
| 5/9/23 | Scott Mingus | Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania |

Dinner Reservations for the Friday, October 28, 2022 Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices for October are:

Breaded Fantail Shrimp Chicken Piccata Cheese Ravioli

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Tuesday, October 25, 2022, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

***IMPORTANT NOTE* Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.**

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Our 26th Campaign!

FIRST DEFENDERS CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE MEMBERSHIP FORM 2022-2023

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

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Reading, PA 19606**

(Or pay in person at the September or October dinner meeting!)

The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

November 2022



www.firstdefenderscwrt.us

President's Message

It was time for another presidential election. Many doubted the efficacy of holding the 1864 canvass in the midst of civil war, but Abraham Lincoln made clear his feelings, "We cannot have free government without elections, and if the rebellion could force us to forego or postpone a national election, it might fairly have claimed to already have conquered and ruined us."

And so it is today. As you peruse this newsletter, the 2022 mid-term election is upon us. Mid-terms are sometimes considered a referendum on the sitting president's administration, and Lincoln was fairly well bruised and abused in 1862 when the war was not going well and the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation had just been issued. Two years later, things were not all that rosy when Lincoln decided to run for a second term. Yet, he persevered even when he expected defeat at the hands of George McClellan.

Times in the mid 19th century saw passionate Americans with opposing views, yet elections went on and the government survived (despite assurances from both parties that their adversaries would destroy democracy). 158 years later, passions still burn in the hearts of Americans looking to ensure the future for posterity. Sometimes it seems difficult, if not impossible, to reconcile opposing views or strike some sort of balance or compromise. Yet as Lincoln said in 1861 so it is true today, "though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection."

The 2022 election will be over this week, perhaps by the time you read this message. There will be those who will be happy and others who will not, yet we are all winners because we will have had the opportunity to freely cast our votes for those whose views best align with our own. Imperfect though our country may be, we remain, in Lincoln's words, "the last best hope of earth."

Craig

Round Table Business

President Craig Breneiser called the October 28, 2022, meeting of the First Defenders CWRT at 7:35 p.m. Twenty-seven members and guests gathered at Giannotti's Country Manor. Ev Binns offered and a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Craig welcomed two guests and prospective members John and Mary Ann Hartner. Craig also announced that Gerry Zeiber had recently undergone abdominal surgery and was still recovering in Reading Hospital.

Vice President Mark Quattroco reported that Devil's Den is now open at Gettysburg while Little Round Top is completely closed. He also reviewed several preservation opportunities (see "Preservation," below).

Mark also reported the first Civil War Medicine Symposium went extremely well, and plans are already underway for the second symposium scheduled for May 6, 2023.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$2,418.74 as of this evening of which \$336 is available for preservation. As of tonight, there are 33 paid members for the 26th campaign.

Preservation

Hello everyone and I hope all of you had a great Halloween. Our October meeting has come and gone and to all of you who donated, bought Book Raffle tickets, and railroad spikes from Newton Station we raised \$117 for Preservation. I want to thank all of you who continue to support our Preservation efforts. I also, want to thank Vicky Heffner from the Berks County Historical Society for donating to us the \$150 that was in a special fund we had set up for a project to raise money to obtain markers for members of the First Defenders.

The night of the meeting we supported the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation for a \$21-1 Matching Grant to preserve the Manor's Hill portion of the New Market Battlefield. They are doing great work and in addition to the donation we made the Foundation recently received a 4.75 million dollar grant from the Commonwealth of VA and they are using this money to preserve 7 new battlefields along with, completing the new Shenandoah Valley Civil War Museum and creating the New Market History and Education Center.

In other news:

- The American Battlefield Trust has come out with a new \$8-\$1 Matching Grant. They are looking to preserve a 6-acre section of the Antietam Battlefield that runs from the West Woods to the Miller Cornfield. They are also, looking to preserve 122 acres on the Shepherdstown Battlefield.
- Devil's Den in Gettysburg is now officially open.
- Falling Waters Battlefield in Falling Waters, VA has officially broken ground for their new Visitor Center. Falling Waters Battlefield is important when talking about Lee's Retreat from Gettysburg and the end of the Gettysburg Campaign.

That is all the news for now! See you all in November!

Book Raffle News

Our Roundtable continues to support battlefield preservation. This past month, October, we collected \$117.00 for donation. In addition, several members have contributed sets of books and other items that may be of interest to our membership that we will inventory and perhaps set up a special raffle for 2023. We will keep you posted on that. Thank you to everyone for your support of our mission of battlefield preservation. We can't do it without you!

Joe's Jaunts

One November 5, 2022, eight First Defenders met with Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guide Sue Boardman who provided a three-hour walking tour of monuments along Cemetery Ridge from Ziegler's Grove to the Pennsylvania Memorial. After the tour, the group dined at O'Rourke's Tavern.

Planning is underway for a spring jaunt. Additional information will be provided in the coming months.

Programs

Joe Schaeffer announced further details regarding programs for the 26th campaign. He reminded everyone the November meeting with Charlie Fennell has been moved back to November 15th so as not conflict with Election Day.

Meal Captain

Kathy Little asked everyone to be aware that the last date to order meals for the November meeting will be noon on Friday, November 11th.

November Program

Greene's Brigade on Culp's Hill

featuring Charlie Fennell

The late afternoon and evening of July 2nd 1863 proved to be challenging for Major General George Gordon Meade. While the hours whiled away and both the Union and Confederate armies massed around Gettysburg recovered from the previous day's battle, General Robert E. Lee had no intentions of simply consolidating the gains made during July 1st. His plans called for Richard Ewell's Third Corps to demonstrate and prepare for an attack on the left flank while James Longstreet's First Corps veterans engaged in an all-out assault from the right. Lee's plan was to attack up the Emmitsburg Road and roll up the federal flank in the same way Stonewall Jackson had done two months before at Chancellorsville.



Once Longstreet's attack got underway, the Federal commander had his hands full trying to protect his left, especially when Major General Daniel Sickles unhinged the Cemetery Ridge defensive line by moving forward to what he considered to be better ground. From that moment on, Meade was forced to feed more and more men into areas that would become immortal: the Wheatfield, Devil's Den, Little Round Top, the Peach Orchard and more. As twilight came on, Meade called for the troops on his far right posted on Culp's Hill.

The initial plan had been to pull almost everyone from that unthreatened spot, but a last-minute decision resulted in a single brigade under the command of George S. Greene to remain. The oldest Union general on the field, Greene was a West Point graduate and former civil engineer who put his men to work building fortifications. And it was good he did because it would not be long until a Confederate division stormed the hill and capturing a positions vacated by troops sent to the endangered left. Greene's men, working from behind well-developed breastworks, withstood the assault and held the summit until their friends returned. Holding Culp's Hill may well have saved the Union Army from defeat at Gettysburg.



Charles Clifford "Charlie" Fennell is a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg for more than 35 years. Awarded a doctorate in history from West Virginia University in 1992, Charlie's thesis was entitled, "The Attack and Defense of Culp's Hill: Greene's Brigade at Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863." There are few who are more intimately familiar with the events that occurred on that famous site nor who are more passionate about the role played by Greene's brigade. Charlie is retired as an adjunct professor of history at Harrisburg Area Community College - Gettysburg, and is also a trombonist and life member of the Lyric Band of Hanover. Married for more than 40 years to his wife, Jolene, Charlie continues to pursue an active schedule as a battlefield guide.



| Coming Campaign Programs | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---|
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| 1/10/23 | Ev Binns | Lost 10 Commandments of the Civil War |
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| 4/11/23 | TBA | |
| 5/9/23 | Scott Mingus | Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania |

Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday November 15, 2022 Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices for November are:

Broiled Orange Roughy Pork Chop Linguine w/ Mushroom Sauce

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, November 11, 2022, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

IMPORTANT NOTE Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.

****PLEASE NOTE: IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED IF YOU PAY IN THE APPROPRIATE DOLLAR AMOUNT. WE DO NOT HAVE A CHANGE DRAWER. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT \$50 OR \$100 BILLS IN PAYMENT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**

The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

December 2022



www.firstdefenderscwrt.us

President's Message

I hate being sick. Why me? It's such an inconvenience, and I'm not a particularly good patient. I curse my misfortune, and just want to get back to normal. Now!

Fortunately, being laid up also gives me time to think. I think about those many men who suffered far more during the Civil War both in camp and in hospitals where medical science was little advanced from the Dark Ages. In many instances, they would languish for weeks or months. Camp Letterman would remain in operation long after the armies had left Gettysburg and be home to thousands of sick and wounded men. During the Overland Campaign, the Union Army would be sending tens of thousands to hospital facilities in and around Washington City on a daily basis.

I fast forward to the current day as acquaintances, long-time friends, and even family face daily chronic pain, hospitalizations, extended recoveries or long-term care. The guilt sets in. The Lord, it seems, works in mysterious ways as I now ask for his blessings on those folks while thanking him for seeing me through my brief illness and restoring my health.

We are entering the traditional season of peace and reflection, a time when we are often overcome with a deep reverence and awe. A time when we reach out to friends and family certainly, but also to many others through our prayers and good deeds. A time when we think less of ourselves and our own travails and more of others. A time when our thoughts extend to those who are sick or lonely, whether on the battlefield or here at home. And we pray for peace.

The stories of many sick, injured and imprisoned Civil War soldiers tell of their reflections of hope, not despair, as December blanketed the world and a new year and new hopes were dawning. We take heart from what we can learn from them as we realize our own lives are not nearly so troubled.

Peace be with you all!

Craig

Round Table Business

Vice President Mark Quattroco called the November 15, 2022, meeting of the First Defenders CWRT at 7:35 p.m. Twenty-nine members gathered at Giannotti's Country Manor for our monthly meeting. Linda Zeiber offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Get well wishes were sent out to President Craig Breneiser and Treasurer Tim Antosy. We hope to see both gentlemen at the December meeting. Gerry Zeiber was welcomed back following surgery. Mark then described events happening in Gettysburg which are included in his preservation report.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$2,161.39 as of November 23, 2022. Last month there was \$253.00 available for preservation. Our membership stands at 50. The unencumbered balance as of November's meeting stands at \$1,808.39

Preservation

Mother Nature had something to say the night of our November meeting when the weather in the evening went from rain to snow. Special thanks to the 29 members of the Roundtable who came out to see Charlie Fennell and his presentation. During the meeting we raised another **\$100** for Preservation. As always, we thank everyone who bought raffle tickets or made donations. It is greatly appreciated.

During the meeting, Mark Quattroco informed every one of the news on General Pickett's Buffet in Gettysburg, PA. The owner of the restaurant had sold the restaurant and the new owner is selling the building and moving the Buffet to the Barn that was occupied by Boyd's Bear. The new owner's plan is to renovate the Barn and to reopen March of next year. The location has a very large parking lot and the Barn is very spacious to seat more people and to bring in more tour bus groups.

With the new owner selling the restaurant, the American Battlefield Trust has come out officially and announced their plans to purchase the site. Once the sale of the property is completed the Trust plans to tear down the building and to restore the property back to its 1863 appearance. They would then turn the property over to the National Park Service and it would be incorporated in to the Battlefield. In order to raise the **\$550,000** they need to purchase the property, the Trust has announced a new Matching Grant of **\$3.05-\$1**. The **deadline** they have to raise the money is **December 15th, 2022**.

Book Raffle News

The end of the year is almost upon us and the Christmas season is here. With that in our perspective, we will end 2022 with a silent auction. Members have donated, not only books, but other memorabilia that may be of interest to some of us. We have various items to put up for purchase—a replica of the Bennington flag (1776), 40 pieces cast metal soldiers and artillery, several CW playing card sets, and some cast metal cannons. You will be able to bid on these items until the start of our business meeting. Any money we take in from the sale of these items will go to battlefield preservation.

In November, the book raffle took in \$100 for battlefield preservation. Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the book raffle and battlefield preservation. Happy Holidays to All!!!

Joe's Jaunts

Joe Schaeffer reported that the fall jaunt on November 5, 2022, with LBG Sue Boardman was a great tour of monuments beginning at the old parking lot for the original Visitors' Center to the Hancock Memorial. He announced that the spring tour will be Culp's Hill in Gettysburg led by Charlie Fennell. Details will be available closer to the spring.

Programs

Joe Schaeffer announced the topic for the December meeting will be Camp Discharge. Two gentlemen from Philadelphia will be offering this program which is new to many of us. Be sure not to miss this.

Member Information

Please do not forget that membership fees (\$25) are now past due. There is still time to fill out the membership form and include it with your payment. You may mail this to Lori Border whose information is on the form found on the website. We are able to provide top-notch speakers with your dues money so don't forget to re-up your enlistment! We currently have 50 paid members.

Website

Webmaster Lisa Breneiser announced that books for the raffle and for sale is being updated. Stay tuned. Check your website for pertinent information and fascinating articles.

Meal Captain

Kathy Little asked everyone to be aware that the last date to order meals for the December meeting will be noon on Tuesday, December 9th.

AAP Update

Barbara Shafer sent the following message that she recently received from Gettysburg National Military Park:

Gettysburg National Military Park Adopt-A-Position Program thanks you for your prior years of dedication and service. We sincerely appreciate the work of our park volunteers and the contribution they make to keeping the park beautiful and protecting resources. Unfortunately, at this time the AAP program as it has been known for the past several years will no longer be available. The park has evaluated all the park volunteer programs in terms of how we can better manage them, as well as evaluating the work they do to ensure that these programs are focused on our highest priorities and most urgent needs. The result of our evaluations has directed the park to focus more on volunteering opportunities that correspond with national efforts like "Park Day" and "Lands Day", etc. in lieu of smaller individual efforts focused on specific locations. The park will keep you updated as to the next volunteer opportunities in the spring.

A Christmas Tale

Anyone who listens to Christmas music has heard the song, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day," yet few realize that its origin lies in a poem written during the Civil War. This true story of tragedy and triumph has now been made into a feature film titled, appropriately, "I Heard the Bells" that is scheduled for release in theaters on December 1st.

Some may recall Joe Schaeffer relating this story at previous December Roundtable meetings. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, America's poet of the mid 19th century, condemned slavery but opposed war as the solution. In 1861 his beloved wife, Fanny, had died from burns received in a household accident. Henry plunged into despair as he was left to raise five children alone. His will to write left him.

Two years later, Henry's oldest son, Charlie, ran away to enlist in a Union regiment. Grievously wounded near New Hope Church during the Mine Run campaign, Charlie was sent to a hospital in Washington not expected to recover. Henry makes the journey to the capital, and grieves by his son's bed. He begins work on the poem. As the days pass, Charlie....well, you need to see the movie for the rest of the story.

The movie likely will not last long in the theaters. Check for availability...

December Program

"Camp Discharge"

featuring Jim Remsen & Brad Upp

Along the Schuylkill Expressway heading toward the City of Brotherly Love, just after the Conshohocken Curve, thousands of motorists daily pass by an unmarked site on the property of the Philadelphia Country Club. This is the site of "Camp Discharge," the final military post for hundreds of Union soldiers closing out their military adventure.



Mostly hailing from throughout the eastern reaches of the Keystone State, these men were funneled to a special Union Army post outside Philadelphia. For many, it was their last stop before heading back to civilian life after surviving years of bloody combat. Some had been wounded and hospitalized. Many had endured long captivity in the South. Thus separated from their regimental comrades, they straggled north, sometimes alone and often in dire health.



Modern Camp Discharge is a story of discovery and of unearthing a past that few have ever known (especially those thousands speeding by every day). Most importantly, it is a human interest story about those who had answered the call and were seeking a return to some measure of normalcy in a much-changed nation.



Jim Remsen is a retired Philadelphia Inquirer journalist and the author of two prior Pennsylvania history books. Brad Upp is a longtime Civil War living historian for the 69th Pennsylvania Infantry and a board member of the Lower Merion Historical Society



| Coming Campaign Programs | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Date | Speaker | Program |
| 12/13/22 | Jim Remsen/Brad Upp | <i>Camp Discharge</i> |
| 1/10/23 | Ev Binns | <i>Lost 10 Commandments of the Civil War</i> |
| 2/14/23 | Sue Boardman | <i>Lincoln Statues Around the World</i> |
| 3/14/23 | Brad Gottfried | <i>Lee in the Gettysburg Campaign</i> |
| 4/11/23 | TBA | |
| 5/9/23 | Scott Mingus | <i>Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania</i> |

Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday December 13, 2022 Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices for December are:

**Soup
Salmon
Veal Marsala
Pasta with Grilled Vegetables**

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, December 9, 2022, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

IMPORTANT NOTE Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.

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The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

January 2023



www.firstdefenderscwrt.us

President's Message

Every so often I like to challenge myself. For example, I'm not much of a vegetable eater (corn, peas and an occasional well-cooked carrot are about it), but I once took a deep breath and tried asparagus.

The same is true for my reading. Occasionally I will come across a book that I'm pretty certain will be annoying, but I manage to overcome my aversion and read it anyway. About twenty years ago, and after much back-and-forth, I finally bought and read *The South Was Right!* by brothers James and Walter Kennedy. If the title itself does not give a hint where 431 pages are going, the first words on the dust jacket bring things into focus: "much of Civil War history is untrue." The Kennedys then write to prove just why the South was (and still is!) right in a well-researched, if not unbiased, argument for their cause. Reading this book was somewhat tedious, but nonetheless still enlightening.

More recently, I again took a deep breath (and a 30% Target discount!) to delve into *The 1619 Project*. A series of essays, poetry and historical fiction, this book focuses on the African-American experience since their arrival in the New World more than 400 years ago. This history, though, differs markedly with what I learned in school and have read throughout my life, and calls into question some of what I have long-accepted. For example, I have held something of a mythical reverence for the "Founding Fathers" who authored the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. It is disquieting, though, to have a bright light shine on the truth that the man who wrote "all men are created equal" was, indeed, the *owner* of more than a hundred men (and women) who were certainly anything but equal. Similarly, the slave-holding "Father of the Constitution" considered Blacks only three-fifths of a man, and then only for political purposes.

Challenge is good. It can help you understand other points-of-view while learning things about yourself and others. Perhaps it can even produce an "Aha!" moment when something that never made sense finally comes into focus. As we embark on a New Year, resolve to challenge yourself in some way rather than continue complacency and comfort. Your opinions and feelings may not change, but you will benefit from the experience. (Regardless, I still don't like asparagus.)

Craig

Round Table Business

President Craig Breneiser called the December 14, 2022, meeting of the First Defenders CWRT at 6:26 p.m. Thirty-one members gathered at Giannotti's Country Manor for our monthly meeting. Ev Binns offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

No new reports were given regarding health issues of members. Craig thanked everyone for his/her wishes for his speedy recovery following his bout with COVID. Craig also discussed the silent auction being run by Gary Hertzog, the proceeds of which go to battlefield preservation, as well as books being sold by our evening's presenter on the subject of Camp Discharge.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$1,973.60, as of December 13, 2022. Last month there was \$253.00 available for preservation. Our membership stands at 50. The unencumbered balance as of December's meeting stands at \$1,720.60.

Preservation

Our December meeting has passed and we raised \$92 from the Book Raffle and another \$30 from our Silent Auction. This gives us a total of **\$122** raised for Preservation. Thanks again to all of you who made donations and took part in either our Book Raffle, Silent Auction or both. It is greatly appreciated!

During the meeting the membership approved two donations for Preservation. The first donation is to the **American Battlefield Trust** in the amount of **\$100** for the **\$3.05-\$1** Matching Grant for the property where General Pickett's Buffet is located in Gettysburg, PA. The Trust is looking to purchase the property and once the property is acquired, they will be tearing down the building and restoring the site back to its 1863 appearance. Once this is completed the property will then be turned over to the National Park Service to be incorporated into the Park.

The second donation is to the **Battle of Franklin Trust** in the amount of **\$100**. There is no Matching Grant with this donation. The Trust has done great work in helping to preserve parts of the Franklin Battlefield. In addition to needing money to help with maintaining the existing parts of the Battlefield the Trust is looking to raise another \$70,000 to purchase another portion of the Battlefield where, Brown's and Wagner's Divisions fought. We are glad to help the Trust out with this endeavor.

The Preservation totals for this season and for all of our seasons will be updated on our web site.

Book Raffle News

Thanks to everyone for their continued support of historic preservation. In December, our raffle took in \$92. In addition, our Silent Auction netted another \$30. Items that were purchased included several decks of CW playing cards, a 1986 CSA calendar with a Robert E. Lee plaque, an artillery shell (hopefully disarmed) and replica of a Bennington flag (circa 1777 or 1877). The final item was purchased by our guest speaker, Brad Upp. Seems as if everyone wants to aid in preserving our history. Our total for historic preservation came to \$122, which with matching contributions, stretches our contribution even farther. Several members also donated new books to our inventory. Thanks to everyone!!!

Meal Captain

Kathy Little thanked everyone for taking care of reservations in a timely manner. She announced that January 6, 2023 is the deadline for reservations for the next meeting.

Member Information

Please do not forget that membership fees (\$25) are now past due. Fill out the membership form and include it with your payment if you have not done so. You may mail this to Lori Border whose information is on the form. We are able to provide top-notch speakers with your dues money so don't forget to re-up your enlistment! Lori Border reported that we currently have 50 paid members.

January Program

10 Commandments of Leadership in the Civil War

presented by Everitt Binns, Ph.D.

Throughout our lives, we have all been "led." Some have even had the opportunities to "lead." But, what is "leadership," and how did it play out during the Civil War. There are the obvious examples of Lee and Grant, Jackson and Meade or the less obvious Breckinridge and Thomas. There are the would-be greats of Chase and Burnside and the everyday leadership of Bickerdyke and Rhodes. This presentation focuses on the "commandments" of leadership, where people succeeded and where they failed. It will also provoke the audience to name their own candidates as exemplars of leadership commandments.



Everitt (Ev) Binns holds a doctorate in adult education from the University of Pennsylvania, as well as degrees from the Pennsylvania State University where he served as dean of students at the Hazleton and Schuylkill campuses. A longtime volunteer ambulance provider, Ev transitioned from higher education to become the executive director and chief executive officer of the Eastern Pennsylvania Emergency Medical Services for more than 20 years. He continues to lecture, teach and consult. A First Defender for ten years, Ev lives in Allentown with his wife, Faith.



| Coming Campaign Programs | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--|
| Date | Speaker | Program |
| 2/14/23 | Sue Boardman | <i>Lincoln Statues Around the World</i> |
| 3/14/23 | Brad Gottfried | <i>Lee in the Gettysburg Campaign</i> |
| 4/11/23 | TBA | |
| 5/9/23 | Scott Mingus | <i>Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania</i> |

Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday January 10, 2023 Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/ reservations on the website. Our meal choices for January are:

Soup
Broiled Crab Cake
Chopped Sirloin
Cheese Tortellini

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, January 6, 2023, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

IMPORTANT NOTE Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.

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The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

February 2023



www.firstdefenderscwr.us

President's Message

When I was a junior at Penn State, I received a copy of *Lee's Lieutenants: A Study in Command* from one of my professors. He explained that Douglas Southall Freeman had written this three-volume work with his leftover notes from his magisterial FOUR-volume biography *R.E. Lee: A Biography*. (I later added this set to my book collection, but don't expect to see either on the raffle table anytime soon!)

If these seven volumes are not sufficient proof that Freeman was the preeminent Lee "fanboy," his 1936 address to the Virginia general assembly should put any doubts to rest. "The Lengthening Shadow of Lee" bordered on canonization; indeed, at one point instead of asking "What would Jesus do," Freeman suggested great men wondered, "What would General Lee do?" Giving his address on Lee's birthday, in his peroration Freeman notes, "red-circled days may be official holidays: (but) this to us is a personal holy day."

Although a print journalist, Freeman's prose suggests he could easily have been the literary contemporary of Hemingway or Fitzgerald. There is no way to determine whether his oratorical skills matched his writing or whether he could command a room like a Bearss or Guelzo (although he was a sometime radio analyst in the fledgling days of that medium). It is all but certain, though, his 2,500 words would have captivated the Old Dominion delegates for nearly a quarter of an hour as he extolled the virtues, indeed the perfection, of the "Marble Man."

Robert E. Lee still evokes strong feelings "four score and seven years" after Freeman's address. Those who have studied the Civil War more often than not look upon him as an exemplar of the West Point motto "duty, honor, country." An increasingly noisy crowd, however, has appropriated him as a white supremacist, racist and traitor, and would agree fully with Henry Adams who famously opined, "I think Lee should have been hanged. It was all the worse that he was a good man, had a good character, and acted conscientiously. It's always the good men that do the most harm."

It is altogether likely that Lee would have been appalled at his virtual deification since his death as he evolved into the very spirit of the Lost Cause. One can only wonder what he had to say to Freeman when they finally met inside the Pearly Gates! Indeed, Marse Robert may have been more comfortable with the notion of walking up the 13 steps to the gallows for having done what he always believed was his duty, a word he once described as the most sublime in the English language.

History is written by those that live it. Future generations will study it, analyze it, contort it and rewrite it with the ever-prescient vision of 20-20 hindsight seasoned with then-current beliefs and prejudices. They cannot, however, not overshadow the *facts* of the time that allow us to gain wisdom borne of experiences of those who have preceded us on life's journey.

Craig

Round Table Business

President Craig Breneiser called the January 10, 2023, meeting of the First Defenders CWRT at 6:26 p.m. Thirty-eight members gathered at Giannotti's Country Manor for our monthly meeting. Craig offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The only current health issue to come to light was when Dave Fox told us a recent phone call that he had had with Roger Cotterill. Roger has maintained his membership despite the fact that he cannot attend meetings. He still resides in a facility in Drums, PA. Roger sent greetings to his many friends and wants us to know that he is doing well, but he has to have dialysis on a regular basis limiting his travels. We send our very best wishes to Roger.

President Breneiser encouraged everyone to reach out to friends and neighbors who might be interested in joining our round table. Our treasury is strained by our current low membership number. Our continuing excellent programs are only made possible through membership dues.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$1,650.31 as of January 10, 2023. Last month there was \$53.00 available for preservation. Our membership stands at 54. The unencumbered balance as of November's meeting stands at \$1,597.31

Preservation

Vice President Mark Quattrochio announced that all checks for preservation from the January meeting had been sent out. February's book raffle netted \$122.00 for future endeavors. He will include a detailed report in the March newsletter.

Book Raffle News

We are off and running in the new year 2023. We continue to acquire new selections for the book raffle, so thank you to everyone for all your donations. I will continue to accept books, but, at this time, I would not like to take in a "library", but a box or bag at a monthly meeting, would be appreciated. Hopefully, I will be able to put a special raffle in place for our February meeting.

Meal Captain

Kathy Little thanked everyone for taking care of reservations in a timely manner. She announced that January 6, 2023, is the deadline for reservations for the next meeting.

Member Information

Please do not forget that membership fees (\$25) are now past due. Fill out the membership form and include it with your payment if you have not done so. You may mail this to Lori Border whose information is on the form. We are able to provide top-notch speakers with your dues' money so don't forget to re-up your enlistment! Lori Border reported that we currently have 54 paid members adding two at last month's meeting.

Programs & Jaunts

Joe Schaeffer reported that his Programs' Committee had met recently to work on next season's programs. They have already put together a formidable list of speakers and topics. The complete listing will be announced as soon as it had been completed.

The next scheduled "jaunt" has been confirmed for Saturday, April 1, 2023. Charlie Fennell will take us on a tour of the newly restored Culp's Hill and focus on Greene's Brigade, the subject of his November 2022 program. We can look forward to his vast knowledge and keen sense of humor in April. The tour is scheduled from 9:00 AM-Noon, after which those attending will have the opportunity to dine together in (or near) historic Gettysburg!



Newsletter

If you want to include an article or information in the newsletter, please forward your news to Linda Zeiber at zeibers@comcast.net no later than one week following the monthly meeting. Linda will not attend the February meeting but will still be composing the March newsletter. Thanks to everyone who takes care of their articles each month.

February Program

Lincoln Statues Around the World

featuring Sue Boardman



Abraham Lincoln had no sooner been sworn in for his first term as president than artists and sculptors sought to produce likenesses of him. Upon his death four years later (and ever since!), the floodgates of memorialization opened. This program will look back at the eras of memorial statuary, what the statues attempt to convey, and how the artists sought inspiration for their work. As with all art, perception is important. The old proverb "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" means art is difficult to judge objectively, for what one person finds beautiful or admirable may not appeal to another. This is true of Lincoln statuary as well, as you will see in this program.

Sue Boardman has been a Gettysburg licensed battlefield guide for more than two decades. A retired nurse, Sue also conducts leadership programs for corporate, educational and government leaders using the Battle of Gettysburg to study leadership styles and decision-making and the immediate and dramatic consequences of those decisions. Sue has also lectured extensively on the Gettysburg Cyclorama, and is a co-author of The Battle of Gettysburg Cyclorama: A History and Guide.



| Coming Campaign Programs | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---|
| Date | Speaker | Program |
| 3/14/2023 | Brad Gottfried | <i>Lee in the Gettysburg Campaign</i> |
| 4/11/2023 | Codie Easch | <i>The Lutheran Seminary & the Battle of Gettysburg</i> |
| 5/9/2023 | Scott Mingus | <i>Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania</i> |

Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday February 14, 2023 **Meeting & Program:**

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices, including soup, are:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Steamed Shrimp | Marinated Chicken Breast | Pasta w/ Grilled Veggies |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, February 10, 2023, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

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The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

March 2023



www.firstdefenderscwr.us

President's Message

In 1963, *From Russia with Love* was the second film of the James Bond genre. When fellow spies met who were unknown to each other, one would ask, "Excuse me, can I borrow a match?" The correct reply would be, "I use a lighter," after which the first spy would remark, "Better still," and the final corroboration of friendly identities would be, "Until they go wrong." Sixty years later, the same can be said of technology: it's great until it goes "wrong."

We communicate today with cell phones, email and a variety of "apps" that provide near-instant satisfaction. An Internet search can supply answers to almost any question with a few clicks. But, when cell service or our broadband "go wrong," frustration (and no small amount of anxiety) sets in as we are left adrift in the unknown.

In the military, communications becomes the critical component when trying to conduct an operation large or small. Imagine, then, how George Meade must have felt when it took several hours for the first word of fighting at Gettysburg to reach him only a dozen miles away. Or Robert E. Lee not hearing anything at all from J.E.B. Stuart for *days*! Yet, critical delays in the sending and receiving of information that would have anyone in the 21st century setting their hair on fire were the norm 150 years ago.

The First Defenders recently experienced an outage of its web site as a result of system upgrades. While we are hardly a giant concern whose existence depends on e-commerce or on which lives are literally at stake, the frustration of keeping our simple site available on-demand for all of our members resulted in one of those moments when someone needed to say, "Stop!"

With the renewal of spring and the promise of getting outdoors but a few weeks away, the lesson we can take from this is that we need to stop and smell the proverbial roses. While it is fairly certain neither Meade nor Lee spent time communing with nature in late June and early July of 1863, they were able to overcome, adapt and improvise to situations where communications went awry. When something in our life "goes wrong" we can learn from their patience (and save the cost of blood pressure medication!) by letting our lives return to normal naturally. So, be still, take a deep breath and relax!

Craig

Round Table Business

President Craig Breneiser called the February 14, 2023, meeting of the First Defenders CWRT at 6:30 p.m. Twenty-seven members gathered at Giannotti's Country Manor for our monthly meeting. Ev Binns offered a prayer followed by Craig leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Craig reported on recent surgeries. Gerry Zeiber is currently in the hospital having had both knees replaced, and Tim Antosy recently had cardiac ablation and was recovering well. We send our very best wishes to both Gerry and Tim and hope to see them back soon.

One guest attended the meeting. Dave Fox brought his wife Susan along. Everyone welcomed her.

President Breneiser noted that our dues go entirely to support our speaker programs. Because of the rising cost of food, we may be looking at an increase in meals for the next campaign. An increase in dues may also be needed. Members are encouraged to reach out to friends and neighbors who might be interested in joining our Round Table. Our treasury is strained by our current low membership number.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$1,809.05 as of February 14, 2023. Currently there is \$176.00 available for preservation. Our membership stands at 54. The unencumbered balance as of February's meeting stands at \$1,635.05.

Preservation

What a great Valentine's Day program by having a Round Table meeting with our guest speaker, Sue Boardman, talking about the monuments of Abraham Lincoln. In addition, we raised another **\$75** for Preservation. Thanks to all of you who continue to support our preservation efforts. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation is currently raising money to save 35 acres of the Hupps Hill Battlefield and is part of the story of the Battle of Cedar Creek and the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign. The goal is to raise \$180,000 to purchase the property and there is no Matching Grant with this.

Back in September, we made a \$100 donation to the American Battlefield Trust to help preserve a portion of the Chancellorsville Battlefield. On the property they are looking to preserve is Dowdall's Tavern and the Trust was also working in partnership with the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust to help raise money for this project. The Trust was looking to receive matching funds from both state and local government(s) and with this, the Trust was giving a matching grant for donations made to this project. We made our donation in the name of Chris Mackowski as he was our speaker in September (and is also on the Board of Directors for the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust). Unfortunately, the matching funds the Trust was hoping for has fallen through. Whatever matching funds we included in our preservation totals for this donation will have to be recalculated and updated on the web site.

With 3 months left into the season and the time approaching for nominations and elections, it is my sad duty to inform all of you **I am officially stepping down** as Vice President **at the end of this season**. The past going on 8 years as Vice President has truly been an honor and a privilege. Thank you all very much for your support!

Mark

Book Raffle News

We started a new special raffle at our February meeting. The raffle will run until the May meeting of this campaign. There are five items being offered. 1st prize is "*Our Heroes & Our Flags*" (CSA) print. It is an 11 1/2 x 14 1/2 print set in a 16 x 20" frame. 2nd prize is the "*NY Times Extras*" reproductions of front pages from 1861 to 1865. 3rd prize is a large coffee table book "*The Civil War (1861-1865)*" by David Roth. 4th prize is a framed & matted picture of a Union soldier of the 41st PA Inf Volunteers, Co G. It is a 6 x 8" picture in a 10 x 14" frame. He looks amazingly like Stonewall Jackson. 5th prize is a collection of metal cast cannons, one with a caisson. There are 5 of them.

Ticket prices are the same as our monthly book raffle tickets. Proceeds from this raffle will go toward our preservation efforts.

Thank you for your support of our preservation efforts!

We will also be acquiring a new item for a future raffle. Our February speaker, Sue Boardman, is gifting us with a portion of the original Gettysburg cyclorama painting. What a great piece of American history to obtain. Our thanks to Sue for a wonderful presentation and her generous gift to our preservation efforts.

Gary

Programs & Jaunts

Joe Schaeffer announced that the next scheduled "jaunt" is planned for April 1, 2023. Charlie Fennell will take us on a tour of the newly restored Culp's Hill. We will be meeting at the tower at the top of Culp's Hill at 9:00 a.m. Carpooling is suggested. Joe will get back to us about the level of walking required.

Joe also noted that the speaker committee is looking at having one meeting next year with a moderator and topic to be discussed. Ev Binn's interactive presentation was the inspiration for this. Any topic ideas should be forwarded to Craig or Joe for recommendation.

FYI

Mark Quattrock reported that the Blue and Gray Hospital Association will be holding its Annual Civil War Medical Symposium on May 6 at the Gettysburg Visitor Center. They have a room that can accommodate 100 people. The cost is \$85 in person; \$70 virtual. There will be 5 speakers. Registration starts at 7:45 a.m. and lectures end at 4:15 p.m. Registration is coming soon.

Craig noted that the Civil War Round Table Congress is holding its annual conference on August 25-27th in Gettysburg at the new Adams County Historical Society in Gettysburg with a tour included.

Sue Boardman sits on the board at the Adams County Historical Society. She gave a brief description of what we can expect to see, including an "almost" life size replica of Devil's Den. She noted that 12 million dollars were raised to complete the project, and they are debt free.

March Program

Lee Invades the North: A Comparison of the Antietam and Gettysburg Campaigns

General Robert E. Lee embarked on two major invasions of the north in 1862 and 1863 that culminated in the battles of Antietam and Gettysburg. While each invasion has been extensively studied, there have been few (to no) comprehensive comparisons of the two. This program compares and contrasts the two campaigns that began with such promise for the Army of Northern Virginia, and will cover the political climate, war effort, the armies, leadership, military intelligence, routes to the battlefield, preliminary encounters, battlefield terrain, the battles and post-campaign events.



Bradley Gottfried was born and raised in Philadelphia and, after receiving his Ph.D. in Zoology, he embarked on a 40-year career in higher education. He retired in 2017 as the President of the College of Southern Maryland, and has written 17 books and numerous magazine articles pertaining to the Civil War. Although perhaps best known for his campaign “map books,” he has also written on Gettysburg, the Point Lookout Prisoner of War Camp, and the Hope Antietam paintings. Brad is an Antietam Certified Battlefield Guide and a Gettysburg Licensed Town Guide. He and his wife, Linda, live in Fayetteville, and have four children and four grandchildren.



| Coming Campaign Programs | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---|
| Date | Speaker | Program |
| 4/11/2023 | Codie Easch | <i>The Lutheran Seminary & the Battle of Gettysburg</i> |
| 5/9/2023 | Scott Mingus | <i>Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania</i> |

Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday March 14, 2023
Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices for March are:

Soup
Breaded Haddock
Chicken Parmesan
Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, March 10, 2023, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

IMPORTANT NOTE Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.

The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

April 2023



www.firstdefenderscwr.us

President's Message

With the coming of spring and the season of renewal, I was much taken with something I read earlier today from our friend Chris Mackowski. In his monthly introduction to the Emerging Civil War newsletter, he recounted some of the meals he has enjoyed on his speaking engagements, as well as examples of the "swag" he has collected and continues to enjoy. (Chris mentions, among other things, having received "etched glassware" from his hosts, and I believe he now has enough from the First Defenders for a four-place table-setting!)

Although I am neither a published author nor a professional historian, Lisa and I have had the good fortune to be asked to provide Civil War related programs to a number of different venues. Round tables, historical societies, adult education and other community groups have afforded us the opportunity to meet many fine people of varying backgrounds and interests, but all of whom have warmly welcomed us into their circles. Without fail, some of the most interesting experiences have been the conversations and questions *after* the program when we are all "just folks" kibitzing about history.

Chris concluded his message noting that "(r)oundtables are full of generous people eager to share the things that make their communities and their roundtables unique," and notes it is a privilege to experience America this way with such fine people. To that I wholeheartedly concur, and add that whether it is spending time with new acquaintances or breaking bread with the more familiar First Defenders, the ability to be with you has been, and continues to be, one of the most cherished and rewarding experiences of my life.

Craig

Round Table Business

Due to the threat of adverse weather, President Craig Breneiser made the decision to cancel the March 14, 2023 round table meeting and program. "Lee Invades the North: a Comparison of the Antietam and Gettysburg Campaigns" presented by Bradley Gottfried has been re-scheduled for April 2024.

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the treasury as of February 14, 2023 was \$1,809.05 with \$176.00 available for preservation.

Book Raffle News

We started a new special raffle at our February meeting. The raffle will run until the May meeting of this campaign. There are five items being offered. 1st prize is "*Our Heroes & Our Flags*" (CSA) print. It is an 11 1/2 x 14 1/2 print set in a 16 x 20" frame. 2nd prize is the "*NY Times Extras*" reproductions of front pages from 1861 to 1865. 3rd prize is a large coffee table book "*The Civil War (1861-1865)*" by David Roth. 4th prize is a framed & matted picture of a Union soldier of the 41st PA Inf Volunteers, Co G. It is a 6 x 8" picture in a 10 x 14" frame. He looks amazingly like Stonewall Jackson. 5th prize is a collection of metal cast cannons, one with a caisson. There are 5 of them.

Ticket prices are the same as our monthly book raffle tickets. Proceeds from this raffle will go toward our preservation efforts.

Thank you for your support of our preservation efforts!

We will also be acquiring a new item for a future raffle. Our February speaker, Sue Boardman, is gifting us with a portion of the original Gettysburg cyclorama painting. What a great piece of American history to obtain. Our thanks to Sue for a wonderful presentation and her generous gift to our preservation efforts.

Gary

Programs & Jaunts

Joe Schaeffer noted that the Program Committee is looking at having one meeting during the next campaign with a moderator and topic to be discussed. Ev Binn's interactive presentation was the inspiration for this. Any topic ideas should be forwarded to Joe for consideration.

Blue & Gray Hospital Association

The Blue and Gray Hospital Association will be holding its Annual Civil War Medical Symposium on May 6 at the Gettysburg Visitor Center. They have a room that can accommodate 100 people. The cost is \$85 in person; \$70 virtual. There will be 5 speakers. Registration starts at 7:45 a.m. and lectures end at 4:15 p.m. Registration is coming soon. Contact Mark Quattrock with any questions you may have about this program.

April Program

The Lutheran Seminary in the Battle of Gettysburg

Featuring Codie Eash

The Lutheran Theological Seminary moved to the western side of Gettysburg in 1832. Three decades later, with the nation torn apart by civil war, the institution itself was also divided. On July 1st 1863, the war came literally to the Seminary doorstep where the iconic building became both a command post and a hospital. This presentation focuses on stories of heroism and horror while discussing the central role the building would play during the first day, the occupation of the Seminary grounds by the Army of Northern Virginia's high command over the next three days and the continuing use as one of the largest military hospitals on the field at Gettysburg.



Codie Eash is the Director of Education and Museum Operations at the Seminary Ridge Museum (which just happens to reside in the original Lutheran Seminary!). A 2014 graduate of nearby Shippensburg University, Codie holds a degree in communications and journalism with a minor in history. In addition to tours and lectures, he has published a variety of articles and essays in multiple local, regional and history newspapers, magazines and journals.

Coming Campaign Programs

| Date | Speaker | Program |
|----------|--------------|--|
| 5/9/2023 | Scott Mingus | <i>Lincoln's Funeral Train in Pennsylvania</i> |

May Meeting - Election of Officers & Preparing for the 27th Campaign

Our final meeting and program for the current campaign is scheduled for May 9th. As always, it will be time to consider who will lead the First Defenders Civil War Round Table into its 27th Campaign when we can anticipate the need to make some significant decisions about our future.

The organization is only about half the size it was eight years ago, and the annual membership dues are what allows us to attract some of the top-notch speakers we have had through the years. Ideally, we should be looking to attract new members to help support our programs and expand our ranks; failing that, however, we may need to consider increasing our annual dues.

Too, anyone who has been to the grocery store knows the price of food is going anyplace but down. The restaurant industry knows this all too well, and we can anticipate meal costs in the 27th Campaign will again go up. What kind of impact this has on members and their attendance is speculative, but it is obviously a concern.

There is no question there will be a 27th Campaign, but a future 28th Campaign will depend on the Round Table's leadership. Every member has a say, and every member is eligible to serve. You have the opportunity to be a part of a time-honored and continuing tradition!

Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday April 11, 2023
Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices for April are:

Salad
Shrimp Scampi
Breaded Chicken Tenders
Manicotti

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, April 7, 2023, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

IMPORTANT NOTE Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.

The First Defenders Civil War Round Table Newsletter

May 2023



www.firstdefenderscwr.us

President's Message

"When Two Worlds Collide" was a popular ballad originally recorded by Roger Miller way back in 1961. It appears the National Park Service inhabits two distinct worlds of its own, and evidence suggests they sometimes collide.

The NPS mission statement is to "preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations." But, what happens when the "natural" and "cultural" resources conflict with each other?



If you stand atop "Lee's Hill" at Fredericksburg today and face the town as its namesake did in December 1862, you see not the town or the plain before Marye's Heights. Rather, you see... trees. Trees that are not permitted to be removed or even trimmed by NPS foresters because, well, they are natural resources. Cultural plays second fiddle in this case, so it becomes difficult for historians to interpret just why Lee's Hill is important.

When NPS began Gettysburg battlefield restoration nearly twenty years ago, there was a firestorm of criticism from the environmental community over the destruction of trees and underbrush that had appeared in the post-war era on the southern end of the battlefield and around Devil's Den. More recently, clearing of undergrowth and archeological research was halted on Culp's Hill to prevent disturbing owls during their mating season and to preserve the natural appearance of the area.



Most interestingly, the Valley of Death at the base of Little Round Top has become (in the words of one wag) "Lake Crawford" as a community of beavers has engaged in a redevelopment project that has dammed Plum Run in several places and added the

construction of a beaver lodge. Had they been about 160 years earlier, the defense of Little Round Top may have been less problematic for the Federals because Hood's Texans would not have tried to cross the natural moat and the 40th New York could have stayed atop the hill (thus ensuring the stone sentinel atop the Mozart Regiment monument would not require a snorkel on days when the water rises up to his perch. When questioned, the NPS has blithely noted, "It's their park as much as it's ours."



As interest in our nation's history steadily erodes, it appears the NPS is already advancing its natural priorities at the expense of the cultural. They could well be reciting the lyrics from the song, "We both reached for heaven, but ours weren't the same. That's what happens when two worlds collide."

Craig

Round Table Business

President Craig Breneiser called the April, 11, 2023, meeting of the First Defenders CWRT at 6:30 p.m. to a group of 35 members and guests at Giannotti's Country Manor. Jeff Newman, Ev Binn's brother-in-law from South Carolina, offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ev was also accompanied by his wife Faith and sister-in-law Lisa. Craig welcomed our guests and members alike.

Craig welcomed back Gerry Zeiber who is still rehabbing from surgery this past February.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tim Antosy reported a balance in the treasury of \$1,593.39 as of April 11, 2023. Currently there is \$251.00 available for preservation. Our membership stands at 54. The unencumbered balance as of April's meeting stands at \$1,342.39.

Preservation

Mark Quattrock announced a preservation initiative from the American Battlefield Trust of \$25.00: \$1.00 leverage for land at the Brandy Station battlefield. Ev Binns made a motion to send \$200.00 to the ABF. Rodney LaPearl seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Book Raffle News

It's hard to believe that we have reached the end of another campaign. We had a good response to both raffles at our April meeting; when we have the totals for the entire campaign, we will have made a good contribution to battlefield preservation. Thank you to everyone that continues to support our mission.

Hopefully we will start off our next campaign with a special raffle that will include the "Cyclorama portion" plus some other memorabilia or books. Several members have expressed interest in the "Cyclorama item" so we may have some competition for that. If anyone would like to make any book donations, we can take them at our May meeting.

Programs & Jaunts

Joe Schaeffer gave a brief review of the “jaunt” held on April 1, 2023. Charlie Fennell toured a group of 8 on the newly restored Culp’s Hill. The weather was rainy leaving Reading and during the drive to Gettysburg, but the sun came out as the group reached the summit of Culp’s Hill.

A spring or fall jaunt is being considered with Codie Easch, the evening’s presenter, to tour the Seminary Museum and trails in the Seminary area.

The next campaign’s speakers’ list is nearly completed. Our September meeting brings back Chris Mackowski who has been our inaugural speaker for several years now. The December meeting will feature another “round table” to include all members and will be led by Ev Binns. If you have a topic in mind, please contact Joe Schaeffer. The month of May has yet to be decided.



May Program

The funeral train carrying the remains of the slain President Abraham Lincoln passed through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on April 21-22, 1865, on its way to New York City and again on April 28 as it headed west from Buffalo to Cleveland and passed through the Erie region. Tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians passed by the coffin as Lincoln lay in state in Harrisburg and Philadelphia. Massive, untold numbers of residents watched the funeral train slowly steam past their farms, small towns, communities and whistle stops. Many left personal reminiscences.



Tapping into these often obscure or rare diaries and journal entries, coupled with the eyewitness accounts of a small cadre of big-city reporters on board the train and those newsmen in the towns through which the train journeyed presents a detailed, yet highly readable account of the funeral train's passage through Pennsylvania. Accounts also include overviews of the locomotives used, the crewmen, the railroads the train used, timetables and other interesting aspects of Lincoln's final journey

Scott Mingus is an award-winning author, retired scientist and executive in the global specialty paper industry. The Ohio native graduated from Miami University, was part of the research team that developed the first commercially successful self-adhesive U.S. postage stamps, and he was a pioneer in the early development of bar code labels. Scott has written more than 30 Civil War and Underground Railroad books and numerous articles for Gettysburg Magazine and other historical journals. He has appeared on C-SPAN, C-SPAN3, PBS, PCN, and several other TV networks. Mingus writes a blog on the Civil War history of York County, PA, where he and his wife Debi live. Scott received a lifetime achievement awards from the York County History Center and the Camp Curtin Historical Society for his many contributions to local history. This presentation marks his third for the First Defenders!



Dinner Reservations for the Tuesday May 9, 2023
Meeting & Program:

If possible, please make your meal choices/reservations on the website. Our meal choices for May are:

Salad
Broiled Crab Imperial
½ Black Diamond Steak
Risotto

If you make your reservation online and you do not receive a thank-you and/or confirmation email, your reservation did not go through. If you must call in reservations, please call your menu selection to Kathy Little at 610-367-8082 no later than noon, Friday, May 5, 2023, which is also the deadline for online reservations. The price is \$31.00 inclusive for meals.

IMPORTANT NOTE Once you have made your reservation, there are no cancellations for any reasons after noon on the FRIDAY preceding the meeting. This is the policy of Giannotti's, and the Round Table will be billed for your meal whether you attend or not. Please understand that you will be asked to reimburse the RT should you not attend after having made a reservation and not cancelled prior to the aforementioned time period.

From our friends at Old Baldy Civil War Round Table...

UPCOMING EVENT: The Society for Women and the Civil War 23rd Annual Conference

July 28 – 30, 2023 in Carlisle, PA

Topic: “Women in Government Service”

Conference Hotel Location:

Comfort Suites Hotel, Downtown Carlisle, PA

Members: Full Registration \$325;

Nonmembers: Full Registration \$375

To get the conference rate for your room must register before June 17, 2023. \$139.00 per plus tax (6%). All rooms are suites, single or double occupancy. Parking is \$5.20 per night. Reserve your room by phone or at <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/D102L8>.



Some topics to be discussed are Civil War dresses, Richmond Spies, Black nurses, unknown women of the Civil War and Dorothea Dix.

The Society for Women in the Civil War is dedicated to recognizing the lives and contributions of women who lived through, or participated in the American Civil War, as well as, supporting those who research, reenact, or otherwise honor these women of the past.

Annual membership for individuals (\$25.00); individuals (plus one) (\$40.00); student (\$15.00); organizations (\$55.00).

Contact information: www.swcw.org

Facebook: Society for Women and the Civil War

Email: SWCW1865@gmail.com

Society for Women and the Civil War, Inc.

PO Box 3117

Gettysburg, PA 17325



Old Baldy is honored to be a conference partner.