

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia



January 12, 2006, The One Hundred and Forty-Fifth Year of the Civil War

January 12th Thursday Meeting

The January 12th Meeting of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table will start at 7:30 pm on Thursday at the Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum at 1805 Pine Street in Philadelphia. The program will be **Show and Tell**. A night that you can share your Civil War interest with the other members and guests. The "Show and Tell Night" has always been an educational and fun experience..

Abraham Lincoln's Visit to Philadelphia and The Great Central Fair, June 16, 1864

Mike Wunsch gave an excellent presentation on Abraham Lincoln's visit to The Great Central Fair held in Philadelphia for the Sanitary Commission. The fair was to raise money, clothing and medical supplies for the soldiers. The response by the public to see Abraham Lincoln had overwhelmed the President and the Committee Members of the Fair that Lincoln refused to attend the other Fairs scheduled for the rest of the country. The Fair itself was a tremendous success in raising funds and materials for the Army.



Mike Wunsch



The President's Letter

A better than average turnout for a December meeting heard a fine program by **Mike Wunsch** on Abraham Lincoln's visit to Philadelphia to attend the Great Central Fair in June 1864. We could clearly see that Mike put a lot of time and effort in researching the subject. He gave us a detailed look at President Lincoln's reaction to the visit and the great difference in presidential security in 1864 and today. Lincoln was almost crushed by crowds of well-wishers but he was delighted at the resulting money raised by the fair for the relief of soldiers at the front. Thank you Mike!

Join us on Thursday January 12th for one of our favorite programs – **Show and Tell Night!** Members bring in their favorite Civil War relics, items, stories, books read, etc. This is a chance to relate your Civil War ancestor's adventures in the war or show relics that were passed down through the family over the years. How about a great book on the war you just read? Visited a battlefield recently? Highlights of Remembrance Weekend in Gettysburg. Tell us about it. But please contact me in advance if you plan on participating so I can schedule times. This is my NEW e-mail and phone number: (610) 867-8231 – chief96pbi@rcn.com **THIS IS YOUR NIGHT! JOIN US! THIS IS WHAT CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLES WERE MENT TO BE.**

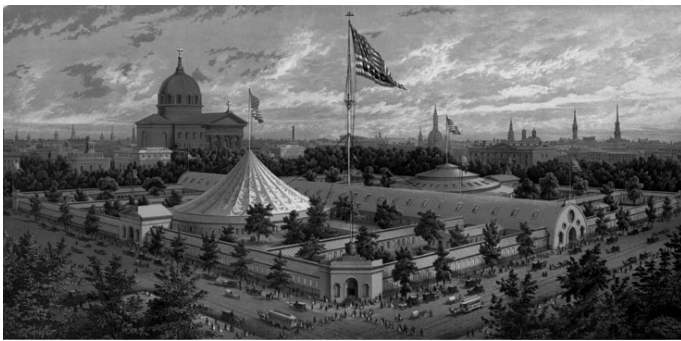
The Civil War Round Table of Eastern PA (Allentown) has announced their Spring Field Trip - Lee's Retreat from Gettysburg - on Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7, 2006. The guide will be Ted Alexander, chief historian at Antietam NBP. Members of the Old Baldy CWRT are invited to join the group but you must submit a deposit of \$50 prior to March 1, 2006. The total cost – which includes bus, guide, dinner Saturday night and hotel – is \$195 for a double room and \$235 for a single. For additional information contact Susan Kovacs at (610) 867-8231 or e-mail: suziek@rcn.com Ted's tour of Lee's retreat is highly recommended by those who have attended in the past. He will be visiting many sites well off the beaten path.

I hope you all have had a wonderful and safe holiday and the best to you and yours in the coming New Year!

Hope to see you all there!!

Mike Cavanaugh
President

Bring a friend, neighbor and another Civil War buff to enjoy a fascinating subject and to support our speakers at Old Baldy.



The Great Central Fair June 16, 1864

In 1861, the Philadelphia branch of the relief organization, the United States Sanitary Commission, began collecting monetary donations in order to supply Union soldiers with basic necessities and medical supplies. Although the Philadelphia branch raised \$135,000 in the span of 2 years, the war effort demanded more supplies and support. The success of Sanitary Fairs in Chicago, Cincinnati and Boston encouraged the Philadelphia agency to experiment with its own Fair in June 1864. Local businesses and institutions donated their products and services to support the patriotic cause and exhibited a wide array of valuable goods and curiosities under one roof. Although the Sanitary Commission asked all members of society to support their countrymen, the spectacle was limited to those who could afford the admission prices.

Logan Square was chosen as the site for the Great Central Fair since it was large enough to accommodate the main building, which encompassed approximately 200,000 square feet. William Strickland and Samuel Honeyman Kneass designed the symmetrical structure with Gothic details, the elevation and plan of which are pictured below. Union Avenue, the great central "Gothic" artery, bisected the Fair building from Eighteenth Street to Nineteenth Street. According to Charles J. Stille, who wrote a memorial of the Fair for the Sanitary Commission, "this great hall had all the vastness of the Cathedral's long drawn aisles and its moral impressiveness as a temple dedicated to the sublime work of charity and mercy." Various "departments" were organized along the corridors of this mini-town; many of them are listed below in the List of Departments and in the Subject Index.

The Library Company's collection includes many photographs of the Fair's various departments.

Many resources about the Sanitary Fair are also included in the library's book collections, such as Charles J. Stille, Memorial of The Great Central Fair for the U.S. Sanitary Commission Held at Philadelphia, June 1864 (Philadelphia, 1864) and "Our Daily Fair," the fair's daily newspaper containing detailed descriptions of the various departments.

The Library Company of Philadelphia WEB Site

An Apology...

Due to Computer problems on both my PC and MAC I have not been able to Email or complete the December and January Newsletters as good as they should have been... Don Wiles

Today in Civil War History

1865 General Kilpatrick is promoted

General Hugh Judson Kilpatrick is promoted to major general in the Union army. Kilpatrick served in both the eastern and western theaters of war and earned a reputation as a fearless-and, many would say, reckless-leader.

Kilpatrick was born in New Jersey in 1836. He attended West Point and graduated in 1861 alongside fellow cavalryman George Custer. He joined the 5th New York Infantry and became one of the first officers wounded in the war when he was shot at the Battle of Big Bethel, Virginia, in June 1861. By 1863, Kilpatrick was a brigadier general in the Army of the Potomac's cavalry division. His aggressive battlefield tactics were often dangerous for his troops and he earned the nickname "Kill cavalry." When the Battle of Gettysburg was winding down after Pickett's Charge on July 3, 1863, Kilpatrick ordered General Elon Farnsworth of his command to charge the Confederate's right flank. Farnsworth informed Kilpatrick that the position was too strong, but Kilpatrick did not relent. Farnsworth was killed in the failed attack. In early 1864, Kilpatrick led a poorly conceived raid on Richmond that was also repulsed.

Despite these blemishes on his record, Kilpatrick was selected by General William T. Sherman to command a cavalry division during the Atlanta campaign in 1864. Sherman wanted an aggressive leader to harass the Confederates. Kilpatrick attacked the Confederate supply line at Lovejoy's Station, but he did not succeed in cutting the railroad. He was wounded later at Dalton, Georgia, but he returned in time to participate in Sherman's March to the Sea and the campaign in the Carolinas in the winter and spring of 1864 and 1865.

After the war, Kilpatrick was appointed U.S. minister to Chile. He returned to the U.S. in 1868, but he resumed the post in 1880. He died in 1881 and is buried at West Point.

HistoryChannel

The Civil War Institute 2006 Spring Schedule

Sponsored by the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table At Manor College. All classes are Act 48 approved. Classes are from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Core Courses:

The Gettysburg Campaign - Two mighty armies engaged by chance in the greatest single battle ever fought in the Western Hemisphere. A detailed examination of events leading up to the battle and each day's activity will be covered. Did the mighty Army of the Potomac finally get the leadership it deserved? Did Robert E. Lee blunder in his strategy? Did his commanders let him down? Would he have prevailed if Jackson were alive? Was James Longstreet, Lee's "War-horse" right in his view of the battle? Come and hear all the details and stories of this war sage, as Frank Avato guides you through this Core Course, which lasts for 6 Mondays March 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10 & 17. \$70.

The Civil War Overview - This series provides the big picture of the events that led to the war, the major battles and the after-effects that still impact our nation today. The

continued on page 3

war will be examined year by year. This is a 6-week program for all ages conducted by instructors who are experts on the subject. It is one you will not want to miss. This Core Course runs for 6 Wednesdays, March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12 & 19. Members of the Round Table will be instructors each week. \$70

Elective Courses:

Franklin & Nashville - An angry Confederate General John Bell Hood, described by General Robert E. Lee as more Lion than Fox, sends his Army of Tennessee into seven futile charges that rival the famous one at Gettysburg against an entrenched Union army. Furious that his troops let Union soldiers escape at Spring Hill, Hood berates his generals and orders heroic assaults that eventually lead to the destruction of his generals and his army at Nashville. Jerry Carrier will lead this elective course on 3 Wednesdays, February 8, 15 & 22. \$40

The Irish in the Civil War - This course looks at the role the Irish played in the Civil War and why so many fought to unite a country that was new to them. It will look at where they came from, how they fought, and why they fought so bravely. The course will examine the Irish on both sides, both blue and gray. We will look at the important roles they played in the major battles of the war and why so many gave their lives. Hugh Boyle will be the instructor for this elective course. It will run for 3 Thursdays March 16, 23 & 30. \$40

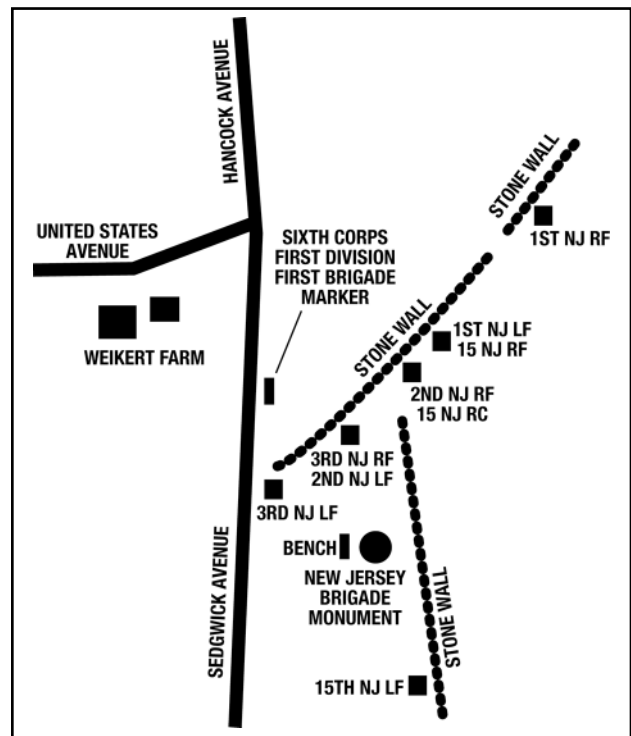
Civil War Medical History - This course will explore the era of Civil War medicine that ministered to the sick before antitoxins and the science of bacteriology existed, when crude sanitation and an ignorance of water were deadly. It will look at how more men died of disease than battle wounds. The course will show how these Civil War doctors became medical explorers in treating disease, and why there were so many amputations. You will see how the medicine of the day met the horror of the battlefield. Herb Kaufman will be the instructor for this elective course that runs for 3 Thursdays, April 6, 20 & 27 (No class April 13). \$40

The New Jersey 1st Brigade and my Quest to find and photograph the markers.

I have been working on a photo book of the Monuments at Gettysburg for about two years now and finding all the Monuments and Markers has been a real education and challenge. I have found most of the them except for about 10 Flank Markers and I hope to lessen that number if possible.

I have had lots of help from the Park Rangers, Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides, Lew Gage and Robert Myers, who have walked and crawled through the fields and woods of the park for many years.

One of the Markers that was a minor challenge belonged to the 1st New Jersey Infantry Regiment. It was their Right Flank marker. The Regiment was part of the New Jersey Brigade which included the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 15th New Jersey Regiments. There are no Regimental Monuments for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 15th Regiments. There are only small Flank Markers (Right and Left). The



4th Regiment was on supply train guard duty at the base of Powers Hill and has a small Monument at that location.

To start with I went to the New Jersey Brigade Monument, which is located off of Sedgwick Avenue on a small hill that belonged to the Weikert farm and took several photos of the Monument and some of the Regiments Flank Markers that were kind of easy to see and find (about 3). At that time the brush was very thick and the ground was very wet. Doing some research by reading a book, titled "A Generation on the March" by Edmund J. Raus, Jr., I found a map that showed the rough locations of the Markers (6). They are all located along two original stone walls that run along a field and the small hill and into the woods and brush. It took several visits at different times of the year to find five of them. Weeds, brush and snow covered them and the light was always kind of dim do to the trees and location next to the walls.

The one that was the real fun was the 1st NJ Right Flank Marker. It was located deep into a very low swampy and thick with briars area. Not to mention the thought of a giant Copperhead grabbing hold of my leg at any moment. One trip I ended up in muck about eight inches deep, another one the ice was cracking under my feet and not knowing how deep it was I retreated. Another one the snow covered most of the wall so I gave up. This past summer it was dry but the brush and briars were so thick it was impossible to get through. So this fall I purchased a 22 inch machete and was determined to find that marker and I did...

While I was looking for these Markers it had crossed my mind that if people were interested in seeing where these New Jersey soldiers were positioned to fight in this battle to save this country you could not with ease and safety see their locations. I know that the park does not have the manpower to clean a safe and clear walkway to view these Markers, but than maybe a volunteer group could take this on as a project. The Markers are getting in bad shape do to weathering and neglect. There is only one (3rd Left Flank) that is polished and cleaned and is readable. This is not the respect these men deserve... Don Wiles



This monument, dedicated on June 30, 1888, stands in the area on Wiekert Hill where the 1st New Jersey Brigade (1st Brigade, 1st Division, VI Corps) was stationed after arriving on the field on July 2, 1863, and during the third day of the Battle. The brigade, commanded by Brigadier General Alfred T.A. Torbert, and consisting of the 1st, 2nd 3rd, and 15th New Jersey Infantry regiments, was held in reserve with the bulk of the VI Corps, ready to fill any breach in the Union line that would have been caused by Pickett's Charge. The 4th NJ Infantry, normally a part of the brigade, was detached to guard the Army's wagon trains. The only casualties sustained by the unit during the Battle were from light skirmishing and stray artillery rounds from the Confederate pre-Charge cannonade, which resulted in 2 men being killed. The monument, unlike most Gettysburg memorials, honors the Unit for its whole Civil War service, not just at Gettysburg. The 1st NJ Brigade was formed before the Battle of First Bull Run, and fought in or was present for every action of the Army of the Potomac up to the surrender at Appomattox, gaining fame as a hard-fighting unit. First commanded by General Philip Kearny, its successive commanders were General George W. Taylor, General A.T.A. Torbert, Colonel Henry W. Brown, and General William H. Penrose. During its tenure of service the 10th, 23rd, and 40th NJ Infantry regiments were attached to it at different times. Over 13,000 New Jerseyans served in the Brigade

Sixth Corps, First Division, First Brigade Marker

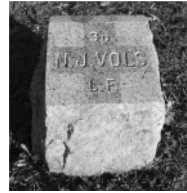


Brigadier General Alfred T.A. Torbert



during the war, and it sustained the 4th highest total of casualties for any brigade in the entire Union Army. Five 1st NJ Brigade Soldiers were awarded the CMOH for their bravery during the war (**Charles Hopkins** and **William Brant** - 1st NJ, **Edmund English** - 2nd NJ, **John P. Beech**, - 4th NJ, **Frank Fesq** - 40th NJ).

Russ Dodge/Find A Grave



3rd NJ Left Flank



2nd NJ Left Flank and 3rd NJ Right Flank



15th NJ Right Center Flank and 2nd NJ Right Flank



15th NJ Left Flank



1st NJ Left Flank and 15th NJ Right Flank



1st NJ Right Flank



Bronze Plaques mounted on the 1st New Jersey Brigade Monument



Centennial Bench and Plaque
New Jersey was the only state to erect a memorial to the Civil War Centennial on the battlefield.



This Month in Civil War History

January 1861 - The South Secedes

When Abraham Lincoln, a known opponent of slavery, was elected president, the South Carolina legislature perceived a threat. Calling a state convention, the delegates voted to remove the state of South Carolina from the union known as the United States of America. The Secession of South Carolina was followed by the secession of six more states – Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas – and the threat of Secession by four more – Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee,

and North Carolina. These eleven states eventually formed the Confederate States of America. Ordinances of Secession

January 7 - Speech of Tennessee Governor Isham G. Harris

January 9 - Mississippi seceded from the Union

January 10 - Florida seceded from the Union

January 11 - Alabama seceded from the Union.
Speech of E.S. Dargan

January 19 - Georgia seceded from the Union

January 26 - Louisiana seceded from the Union

January 29 - Kansas admitted to the Union

January 1862

Abraham Lincoln Takes Action

On January 27, President Lincoln issued a war order authorizing the Union to launch a unified aggressive action against the Confederacy. General McClellan ignored the order.

January 3 - Cockpit Point/Freestone Point

January 5/6 - Hancock/Romney Campaign

January 8 - Roan's Tan Yard/Silver Creek

January 10 - Middle Creek

January 19 - Mill Springs/Logan's Cross-Roads/Fishing Creek

January 1863

Emancipation Proclamation

In an effort to placate the slave-holding border states, Lincoln resisted the demands of radical Republicans for complete abolition. Yet some Union generals, such as General B. F. Butler, declared slaves escaping to their lines "contraband of war," not to be returned to their masters. Other generals decreed that the slaves of men rebelling against the Union were to be considered free. Congress, too, had been moving toward abolition. In 1861, Congress had passed an act stating that all slaves employed against the Union were to be considered free. In 1862, another act stated that all slaves of men who supported the Confederacy were to be considered free. Lincoln, aware of the public's growing support of abolition, issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring that all slaves in areas still in rebellion were, in the eyes of the federal government, free.

January 1 - Galveston

Maj. Gen. John B. Magruder, who became the Confederate commander of military forces in Texas on November 29, 1862, gave the recapture of Galveston top priority. At 3:00 am on New Year's Day, 1863, four Confederate gunboats appeared, coming down the bay toward Galveston. Soon afterward, the Rebels commenced a land attack. The Union forces in Galveston were three companies of the 42nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment under the command of Col. Isaac S. Burrell. The Confederates captured or killed all of them except for the regiment's adjutant. They also took Harriet Lane, by boarding her, and two barks and a schooner. Cdr. W.B. Renshaw's flagship, U.S.S. Westfield, ran aground when trying to help Harriet Lane and, at 10:00 am, she was blown up to prevent her capture by the Confederates. Galveston was in Confederate hands again although the Union blockade would limit commerce in and out of the harbor. Galveston. Soon afterward, the Rebels commenced a land attack.

January 8 - Springfield

January 9/11 - Hartville

January 9/11 - 1863 Arkansas Post/Fort Hindman

January 29 - Bear River/Massacre at Boa Ogoi

January 1864

January 17 - Dandridge

January 26 - Athens/Alabama

Confederate force fails in its attempt to take Athens, Alabama. Confederate cavalry, numbering about 600 men, attacked Athens, held by about 100 Union troops, around 4:00 am on the morning of January 26, 1864. After a two-hour battle, the Confederates retreated. Union forces, although greatly outnumbered and without fortifications, repulsed the attackers.

January 27 - Fair Garden

January 1865

The Fall of the Confederacy

Transportation problems and successful blockades caused severe shortages of food and supplies in the South. Starving soldiers began to desert Lee's forces, and although President Jefferson Davis approved the arming of slaves as a means of augmenting the shrinking army, the measure was never put into effect.

January 13/15 - Fort Fisher

After Admiral David D. Porter's squadron of warships had subjected Fort Fisher to a terrific bombardment, General Alfred H. Terry's troops took it by storm on January 15, and Wilmington, North Carolina, the last resort of the blockade-runners, was sealed off.

americancivilwar.com

**Schedule of
Old Baldy CWRT Speakers for 2006**

January 12, 2006 - Thursday

Show and Tell Night

Members bring in their favorite relic, talk about their favorite book, their ancestor's adventures, etc.

Its Your Night! Join In!

February 9, 2006 - Thursday

Ed Root And Jeff Stocker

Topic: Their New Book,
Massachusetts Remembered:

*The 15th, 19th, & 20th Massachusetts Regiment At
Gettysburg*

March 9, 2006 - Thursday

Mike Kochan

Topic: As A Coauthor Mike Will Talk About His Book,
*Torpedoes: Another Look At The Infernal Machines
Of The Civil War*

April 13, 2006 - Thursday

Matthew Borowick

Topic: Civil War Economics

**All meetings, unless otherwise noted, begin
at 7:30 PM at the**

**Civil War Library and Underground Railroad Museum,
1805 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Questions to Mike Cavanaugh at 610-867-8231 or
chief96pbi@rcn.com**

**Members go out to a local restaurant for dinner between
5:30 & 6 P.M.**

You're Welcome to Join Us!

Blue & Gray Education Society 2006 Schedule

BGES is Proud to Announce its 2006 Schedule for Tours and Seminars: Details of programs and registration forms will be available from December 1st. To be added to the mailing list for any particular program please email bgesbill@aol.com . Make sure to provide your snail mail address and phone number . Registration forms will be available on line from December 1st and as completed.

February 16-19: BGES Staff Ride of Forts Henry and Donelson with Kendall Gott and Parker Hills. Based in Nashville, Tennessee.

March 14-18: Forrest in Alabama with Brian Wills and Parker Hills based in Florence, Alabama

April 5-9: The Stand of the US Army at Gettysburg: Staff announcement pending, based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

May 10-13: The Vicksburg Campaign: Part 3 Grant Establishes his Beachhead, Milikens Bend to Hard Times and New Carthage, with Parker Hills and Len Riedel, Based in Vicksburg, Mississippi

June 1-3: Steele's Arkansas Expedition in the Red River Campaign: Staff announcement pending: Based in Shreveport, Louisiana

June 9-14: From Fort Kearny to the Little Big Horn through the eyes of Sitting Bull: with Ed Bearss and Neil Mangum based in Billings, Montana

July 20-24: America's Cradles of Revolution: Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown with Ed Bearss and other staff to be announced. Based in Williamsburg, Virginia

July 26-29: Great Issues of Gettysburg: Was Stuart a Scapegoat? with Greg Mertz, Mike Miller and Andie Custer based in Leesburg, Virginia

August 28-September 1: Bleeding Kansas with Ed Bearss, Nicole Etcheson, Kendall Gott and other staff pending based in Kansas City, Missouri

September 13-16: Great Issues of Gettysburg: The Sickles-Meade Controversy. Staff announcement pending. Based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

September 25-29: America's Cradles of Revolution: Charleston, SC with Ed Bearss and Rick Hatcher based in Charleston, South Carolina

September 30-October 1: 5th Annual Massachusetts School of Law and BGES Annual Symposium, The North in the Civil War: Lincoln and His Generals. Staff announcement pending, based in Andover, Massachusetts

October 13-15: Gettysburg FOCUS Weekend 2006 Part 1: Five different four hour tours with some of the best of Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guides, based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

October 18-21: The Vicksburg Campaign Part 4: Grant Disposed of Johnston (Grindstone Ford to Jackson) with Parker Hills and Len Riedel, based in Vicksburg, MS.

November 10-12: Gettysburg FOCUS Weekend 2006 Part 2: 5 more different four hour tours with some of the best of the Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guides, based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

November 16-18: BGES Staff Ride of the Battle of South Mountain, Crampton's Gap and Maryland Heights with Dennis Frye, Tom Clemens, Corky Lowe and Al Preston based in Hagerstown, Maryland

December 11-16: Cajuns, Coonasses and War with Ed Bearss and others based in New Orleans, Louisiana.

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Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia
1805 Pine Street
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Founded January 1977

President: Mike Cavanaugh

Vice President: Herb Kaufman

Treasurer: William George

Secretary: Tina Newberry

Annual Memberships

Students: \$12.50

Individuals: \$25.00

Families: \$35.00

What's News?

The only way you'll know what's happening is the Civil War today is
by reading

"The Civil War News"

The monthly current events newspaper for people with an interest in the Civil War today.

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