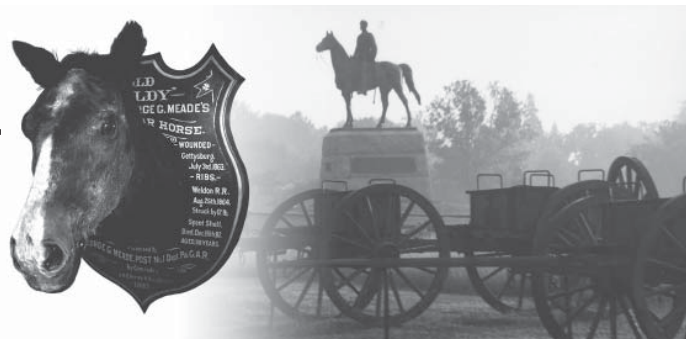


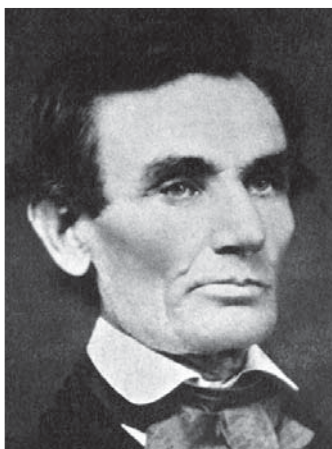
Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia



February 12, 2009, The One Hundred and Forty-Ninth Year of the Civil War

Abraham Lincoln: *His Life and Legacy*

Abraham Lincoln - 1858



On this special occasion — the **200th Anniversary of Lincoln's birth** — we are certainly fortunate to have **Steven J. Wright** and **Hugh Boyle**, two Lincoln scholars of renown, presenting topics of special interest on Lincoln, and inviting your participation in an open "Round Table" discussion.

Steve Wright's interest in Lincoln is almost genetic, having inherited a fascination of the 16th President from his father. His earliest memories are of books, and the earliest books he remembers are of Lincoln and the Civil War. Steve is a Reference Librarian with the Free Library of Philadelphia, with a Masters Degree in Library Science from Drexel University. He also has a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. John's University (History), and a Master of Arts from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, (American Military History). Former Curator of Collections for the Civil War Library and Museum, he has also worked for the National Park Service, including four years as a Park Ranger at Gettysburg National Military Park. He has written extensively on the Civil War in numerous publications, and is the author of a short volume on the Irish Brigade. Steve's presentation will be on **Lincoln's Life: The Illinois Years**, going from a young backwoodsman to a businessman, lawyer, and politician — and meeting his one true love.

Hugh Boyle is also very well known in Lincoln circles, being a member of The Abraham Lincoln Association, The Surratt Society, and the Lincoln Forum, where he writes book reviews for the Lincoln Herald. Also well recognized throughout our region, he is a Founding Member and President of the Delaware Valley CWRT, on the Board of Directors of the GAR Library and Museum, and is on the Faculty of the Civil War Institute at Manor College. Mr.

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We now have an email address to use to receive messages and reservations.
oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net

President's Message

Welcome to February and the start of Lincolnmania. In the next 12 months we will be bombarded with books, shows, conferences, presentations, musicals and more all centered on our 16th President. Be sure to partake in as many local events as possible. It is a good chance to learn, and also an opportunity to let the people at these events know about the Old Baldy CWRT. They will want to come check us out. Not to be left out of the madness, we have an article on the Lincoln Cottage in this newsletter and our discussion on the 12th.

On Round Table business, the survey results were positive. The returns are still trickling in but we received enough to move on. If you have not submitted your reply, please do so soon. To aid us as we have larger events we have set up an email address (OldBaldyCWRT@verizon.net) and a voice mailbox to track reservations. Bill has been looking into a possible dinner in the autumn and we are looking into a Center City Tour during a summer meeting. We hope to start this month on updating our website and getting our brochure designed and printed. As the event season heats up we want to get out and promote our group, so our traveling display also needs to set up.

Recently attended the AMART meeting, a few things of note arose. First, the Meade Society is sponsoring the next Symposium on March 29th, "Lincoln and the Commanders of the Army of the Potomac" at West Laurel Hill Cemetery. The details can be found in this newsletter. When discussion turned to who would host next year's event and I was informed OBCWRT had not done one in 10 years, I said we would consider it pending Round Table approval. This will be a great opportunity to get some exposure for our Round Table, recruit new members and develop new talents. It will be some work but together we can achieve it. Come to our Feb 12th meeting prepared to discuss sponsoring it as well as a topic and when we would like it to be. They have traditionally been in the Fall. Of course if someone wants to head up the planning committee... we are open.

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The Old Baldy CWRT will meet at the Union League of Philadelphia at 7:30 PM, the second Thursday of the month. Members go out to a local restaurant for dinner at 6:00 PM, Applebees on 15th Street between Walnut and Locust. You're Welcome to Join Us!

Bixby Letter

Executive Mansion, Washington, Nov. 21, 1864.

Dear Madam,--

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle.

I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save.

I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours, very sincerely and respectfully,

A. Lincoln

Continued from page 1 - His Life and Legacy

Boyle is a frequent lecturer at Round Tables, museums, civic groups, schools, and at seminars and symposiums, with a focus on Abraham Lincoln and his life. His topic tonight will be **The Bixby Letter**, the eloquent letter of consolation to a grieving mother of fallen sons, which has become a well-known facet of Lincoln's legacy. However, quoted as a focal point in the 1998 film "Saving Private Ryan", the letter is not without controversy. Hugh will offer up such intriguing questions as "Did John Hay have a role in it?", "Who was Mrs. Bixby and what actually became of her five sons?", and "Did Lincoln actually write it?" These questions are sure to stir some interest and lead to some lively discussion!

We hope you can make it out for this special evening on Thursday, February 12th at 7:30 PM, in the 2nd Floor Library at the Union League, Broad & Sansom Streets. As always, you are welcome to join us at 6:00 at Applebee's for a bite to eat before the meeting. It's one block south of the Union League on 15th Street.

See you there! Harry P. Jenkins, Program Chairman

A Sad Passing

This is from last year. There are a number of members that just send in their dues and you never hear from them.

CRAIG L. LOVETT
Westmont, NJ resident

Craig L. Lovett of Westmont and a longtime resident of Oaklyn, NJ, died February 12, 2008 after a long battle with congestive heart failure. He was 70. Craig was the dear husband of the late Sandra (nee Stephenson) and loving father of Mary Jane Lovett Noon and her husband Timothy Noon of Haddon Township.

Craig was an integral part of the Big Brother Assoc. of Southeastern Pennsylvania for thirty-six years and is survived by his little brothers, Robert Shaw of Westville, NJ, Christopher Conaway of South Dakota, John Cassetta and Pernell Francis, both of Philadelphia, as well as numerous friends. One of Craig's greatest accomplishments was

Notice: Attire for Men at the Union League Jacket and tie would be preferred; otherwise collared shirts, long pants and jacket are recommended. For men and women, the following attire is never acceptable on the first or second floors of the League: jeans, denim wear, tee shirts, athletic wear, tank, halter, or jogging tops, shorts, baseball caps, sneakers, extremely casual or beach footwear. Current or historical military uniforms are appropriate.

Parking... A \$2 coupon (off of parking) is available at the Union League front desk (through the side door on Sansom Street)

Continued from page 1 - President's Message

We will hear more from **AMART** as it works to revive interest among the member Round Tables, sharing information on speakers and challenges faced. It is important to come together as we move closer to the 150th anniversary, especially with the economy and time constraints.

One last note, **Harry Jenkins** has worked hard to put together a great program for us, let's support it and invite others to attend.

See you on the 12th. Rich Jankowski, President

being named the Southeastern Pennsylvania Big Brother of the Year in 1976 and 1991 and the Pennsylvania State Big Brother of the Year for 2007. He also played Santa Claus for over ten years at the Big Brothers Annual Christmas party. Craig was a 1956 graduate of Collingswood High School and a 1960 graduate of the University of Mississippi, where he was an active member of the alumni association. Craig proudly served his country as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army and Army Reserves; he later became an authority on the Civil War and enjoyed teaching classes at Haddon Twp. Adult School. Craig also served as a tour guide at the Civil War Library and Museum in Philadelphia. Craig was a very passionate man. He was someone to count on and a great friend. Craig was an avid reader and skilled fisherman, he enjoyed debating politics, was a gourmet cook, had a tremendous love for nature and

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**"The man does not live who is more devoted to peace than I am.
None who would do more to preserve it."**

**Lincoln Quotes from
John Bamberl**

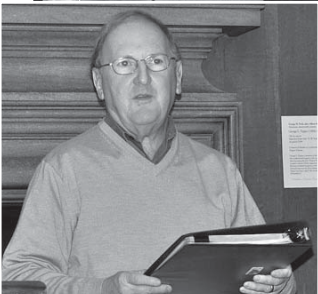
animals and was a passionate sports fan. Craig had his own tax practice for forty-four years and was a certified cemetery executive and manager of Lakeview Memorial Park in Cinnaminson for sixteen years. He also served as Treasurer of the Board of Trustees as well as a member of the International Cemetery Association. While a resident of Oaklyn, Craig served as a Councilman for six years, coached for the OBLL, was a past president of the Jaycees and was a long time member of the Oaklyn Lions Club, where he directed the annual Halloween Parade. He was also a past president of the Camden YMCA Men's Club. In addition, Craig was a member of the Avalon and Aqua String Bands and enjoyed playing the banjo and marching in the Mummies Parade. He also marched with the Sons and Daughters of Cavanaugh in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Philadelphia. Craig was a longtime Episcopalian and an active member of Grace Episcopal Church in Haddonfield. Entombment at Lakeview Memorial Park, Cinnaminson, NJ. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations in Craig's name are made to Cure Autism Now/Autism Speaks, 2 Park Ave., 11th floor, NY, NY 10016. Burlington County Times

January 8th meeting

Medical Treatment of Three Assassinated Presidents:

Herb Kaufman presented a unique program on the medical treatment of three assassinated presidents with a connection to the Civil War: Abraham Lincoln, James A. Garfield, and William McKinley. It was unimaginable to us that the concepts of medical treatment to these men existed at that time. The training of these physicians consisted of months of lectures followed by a short period of "practicing" on patients. Herb discussed how even into the 20th century many surgeons continued to base their beliefs on the "bleed, blister and purge" 18th century teachings of Dr. Benjamin Rush. Herb's presentation showed that maybe some of these men may have survived do to the medical practices of today. And Herb your program was not to gorey.... excellent as always...

Herb Kaufman



Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2009

February 12, 2009 - Thursday
On this, the 200th Anniversary of his birth, Special Presentation & Round Table Discussion on **Abraham Lincoln: His Life & Legacy** With noted guest speakers **Steve Wright & Hugh Boyle.**

March 12, 2009 - Thursday
Civil War Economics - North & South
By **Matthew Borowick**
Executive Director the R. E. Lee CWRT of New Jersey Library & Research Center, Columnist for "Civil War News"

April 9, 2009 - Thursday
"The Gettysburg Conspiracy"
You may remember from years ago this "counter-factual" history show by **Robert Quigley**, author of "Civil War Spoken Here". Bob returns with an all new eyebrow-raising, side-splitting presentation.

May 21, 2009 - Thursday
(Note change to **third** Thursday of the month)
Ambrose Powell Hill
Portrayed by **Patrick Falci**
Actor/Historian/President of the New York City CWRT
Portrayed General A.P. Hill in the film "Gettysburg"

June 11, 2009 - Thursday
The Gettysburg Veterans Reunions
By **Alyce Army**
(To be confirmed)

June 20, 2009 - Saturday
Field Trip to Historic Fort Mifflin: "Valiant Defender of the Delaware"
Located on the Delaware River in southern-most Philadelphia With our Friends from the Lehigh Valley and the Eastern Pennsylvania CWRT

July 9, 2009 - Thursday
Dr. Kevin Weddle, Professor of Military Theory & Strategy, US Army War College, Carlisle, PA, speaking on his new book **Lincoln's Tragic Admiral: The Life of Francis Samuel DuPont**

August 13, 2009 - Thursday
(To be determined)

September 3, 2009 - Thursday
(Note change to **first Thursday** of the month)
Historian & Author **Gordon Rhea**
(Topic to be confirmed)

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, begin at 7:30 PM in the 2nd Floor Library of the UNION LEAGUE, Broad & Sansom Sts in Philadelphia. Questions to Harry Jenkins at 856-428-8773 or hj3bama@comcast.net

Members go out to a local restaurant for dinner at 6:00 P.M. Applebees on 15th Street between Walnut and Locust You're Welcome to Join Us!

"Determine that the thing can and will be done... and then we shall find the way."



Entrance to the cottage

The Lincoln Cottage

Article and Photos by Rich Jankowski

Just in time for Abe's 200th birthday we learn of his 'home away home' in Washington. Last May, Carol Ingald (DVCWRT) invited me to a presentation at the Center for Architecture in Center City to hear about the \$15 million renovation of the Lincoln Cottage. It was presented by RMJM Hillier the firm that did the work. It was very interesting as they gave some history of the building, showed before and after pictures, discussed the challenges they endured and told of the creative solutions they implemented. The project took seven years to complete. They accommodated "Green" elements into the project by reusing material, using natural light and retaining storm water on site. After attending, I wanted to get down to Washington to see it in person.

It took a while but I finally got the family down there the day after Christmas. Tours are hourly and are limited to 20. I suggest purchasing tickets in advance to ensure you can



Visitors Center

tour at the time you want. There is no photography in the cottage. The guide uses a remote to activate speakers and videos in various rooms to tell of Lincoln events that occurred and to give a sense of what it was like. In ascending to the second floor you can touch the same banister the Lincolns used in their residence. The Visitor Center has displays about the Lincoln's and the cottage, rest rooms, a small store and an orientation video. There are other Civil War sites in the immediate area you will learn about in future newsletters. The website for tickets and directions is <http://www.lincolncottage.org/index.htm>.

The 34-room Gothic Revival style house is located three miles north of the White House on the grounds of the federally-operated Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH). President Lincoln's Cottage is run by the National

Trust for Historic Preservation, a private, non-profit organization, through an agreement with the AFRH. All

tours of the Cottage begin in the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center and are guided. The entire tour lasts



Mural depicting life around the cottage

approximately 1 hour. In addition, visitors are invited to view the various self-guided exhibits and media presentations in the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center.

President Lincoln first visited the Soldiers' Home three days after his first inauguration on the recommendation of President Buchanan. The Lincoln family moved from the White House to the Cottage between mid-June and



Rich and Abe... Do you think Abe was trying to sell Rich the horse?

early July in 1862, 1863 and 1864, and stayed until the cooler weather of early November. White House staff transported some 19 wagonloads of the family's belongings, including toys, furniture and clothing. That is why many of the rooms are currently

sparingly furnished because the furniture was transported around and returned to the White House and Springfield, IL. Lincoln last visited the Cottage the day before his assassination.

The Lincoln family first moved to the Cottage in June 1862 to escape the heat, congestion and noise of wartime Washington. They were also grieving the death of their young son Willie who had died in February 1862. They intended to move here in 1861, but the outbreak of the Civil War apparently altered their plans for that year.

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"If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen, we must live through all time, or die by suicide."

Abraham Lincoln and his family lived here for a quarter of his presidency. While living here, Lincoln plotted Union wartime strategies, developed his policy of emancipation and determined to include the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery in the Republican platform of 1864. Life at the Soldiers' Home offered Lincoln a respite from some of the pressures at the White House but also put him in direct contact with the soldiers he met on his daily commute between the White House and the Cottage and contraband camps.

Today in Civil War History

Wednesday, February 12, 1862 Dreary Donelson Delay Depressing

U. S. Grant's Federal army, under the command of Gen. McClelland, was on this day arrayed on the hills around the west side of Ft. Donelson. The delay was caused by the fact that the gunboats, which had left Ft. Henry at the same time as the army, had to travel about eight times further to arrive. Although the Confederate defenders could still enter and exit the fort to the east, it was in fact under siege.

Thursday, February 12, 1863 Queen Quarry Quest Quarterless

The USS Queen of the West, although unsuccessful as a ramship last week, was still an implacable hunter on the waters and tributaries of the Mississippi. Today she took a jaunt up the Red River. Her commander, Col. C.R. Ellet, took a landing party as far as the Atchafalaya, where he came upon a Confederate wagon train. The twelve wagons were destroyed, along with seventy barrels of beef, ammunition and stores from another train.

Friday, February 12, 1864 Increasing Inequities Inspire Innovation

Shortages of almost every conceivable material were plaguing the Confederacy by this stage of the war. Among the annoyances was a lack of proper cloth to use for cartridge bags, which held gunpowder required to fire naval guns. Today Cmdr. John Brooke of the Confederate Office of Ordnance and Hydrography wrote to France for 22,000-yards of material, to be sent by 22 different ships to keep it from all being lost to capture.

Sunday, February 12, 1865 Sleet Suspends Sneaky Stratagem

A Confederate force under Lt. Charles W. Read had loaded four torpedo boats onto wagons and hauled them across Drewry's Bluff, intending to use them to attack Union boats on the James River. Caught by a sleet storm today, they hid in a barn. A young Confederate soldier came to tell them that one of their scouts had been captured and Union troops knew all about the plan and lay in wait for them at the James. Were it not for the storm, they would have walked straight into the trap.

www.civilwarinteractive.com

Check out your memory...

Who was the sole casualty of a Federal bombardment of Savannah in 1863?

What state contributed more troops to the CSA than any other?

Answers next issue

Quiz questions from Mark Seymour

Outer Banks of North Carolina Early in The Civil War

*Article and Photos by
Bill Hughes*



*Ft. Ocracoke burning with U.S.S. Fanny in the foreground
(Courtesy of NC Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC)*

*Continued from January issue.
The Chicamacomico Races*

Three days later Wright gathered all of the vessels he could in order to land the 3rd Georgia Infantry to the north of the Federals at Chicamacomico, while Colonel Henry Shaw's 8th North Carolina Regiment would be landed to the south, thereby cutting off the Union escape. After eliminating this enemy concentration, the Confederates could then march south to destroy the Cape Hatteras lighthouse and recapture Forts Clark and Hatteras.

After midnight in the early hours of October 5, 1861 the little fleet arrived off of Chicamacomico just after sunrise. This was the beginning of a long list of errors. The Confederates instead of landing just north of the Union camp, mistakenly tried to wade ashore through more than a mile of shallow water while in full view of the Union forces. Col. Brown, the Union commander, observed half of the invading fleet continuing to steam south, apparently intending to encircle and trap his forces. Due to his inexperience, Col. Brown ordered his men to withdraw all the way to Fort Hatteras instead of putting up a fight. Thus began the famous "Chicamacomico Races." Brown's men were expected to withdraw in good military order. With the Georgia troops in hot pursuit, the 20th Indiana, short on water and wearing wool began to drop everything as they ran through the soft sand. Mixed in with the fleeing troops were dozens of local citizens who had taken an oath of loyalty to the Union, and were fearful of being hung as traitors.

One of the Indiana soldiers later described the scene: "The sun was shining on the white sand of the beach,

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"I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts."

heating the air as if it were a furnace. The first ten miles was terrible. No water, the men unused to long marches, the sand heavy, their feet sinking into it at every step. As the regiment moved along, man after man would stagger from the ranks and fall upon the hot sand. Looking back, I saw our Colonel trudging along with his men, having given up his horse to a sick soldier. But the most sorrowful sight of all was the Islanders leaving their homes from fear of the enemy. They could be seen in groups, sometimes with little carts carrying their provisions, but mostly with nothing, fleeing for dear life; mothers carrying their babes, fathers leading along the boys, grandfathers and grandmothers straggling along from homes they had left behind. Relying on our protection, they had been our friends, but in an evil hour we had been compelled to leave them.”

The same soldier went on to describe the maddening thirst as the morning and afternoon wore on: “In every clump of bushes I would find men utterly exhausted. The enemy’s vessels were now nearly opposite, steaming down the Sound to cut off our retreat. I would tell them this, but they would say ‘they did not care, they would die there’, so utterly hopeless did they seem.”

By late afternoon, the Confederate fleet had gotten far enough south of the fleeing Federals to attempt a landing of Col. Shaw’s 8th North Carolina Regiment. But the vessels had run aground far out in the Sound, and the soldiers were not able to wade ashore because much of the intervening waters were too deep. The Confederates attempt to trap the Union was a failure but the 3rd Georgia was unaware of it. The retreat of the 20th Indiana continued until midnight, when they finally reached the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse after their 23 mile march. In the morning the Union re-inforced by the 9th New York, suddenly realized that the North Carolinians were not there for the trap. Now the chase began the opposite direction, with the Confederates running down the beach under fire from a Federal steamer anchored off the coast.

An officer of the 3rd Georgia described what happened: “... We marched upon the Sound side of the beach and of course a great part of the way, across the little inlets, through water 2 and 3 feet deep, I marched till mired down, then I took off my pants, shoes and socks — which made me much lighter. Most of us did this, and most of us can walk with difficulty yet because of sore feet. Those that took it barefooted stood the march the best. It was said to be the Monticello that attacked us. Of course we could offer no resistance, for they kept 3 or 4 large sized guns belching forth death and destruction at us without any compunctions and we had to march down the beach and take it.”

Thus the “Chicamacomico Races” ended with everyone back where they started. The Confederates abandoned Chicamacomico, but soon afterwards so too did the Federals, who returned to Fort Hatteras to regroup. It was not until the following February that Roanoke Island would be attacked by the newly arrived forces of the Burnside expedition

In November of 1861 more than 250 residents of the Outer Banks took an oath of allegiance to the United States



and promised to keep the Federals informed of Confederate movements. Those taking the oath declared that secret Union meetings were being held in the counties bordering Pamlico Sound and that many citizens were ready to avow openly the union cause. Colonel Rush Hawkins, commanding at Hatteras, suggested to his superiors that a popular convention be held under the protection of the Federal

army. Through such a convention, the Colonel thought, a third of the State could be restored to the Union at once.

The attitude of Hawkins and the Hatteras citizens raised Federal hopes that in eastern North Carolina might be found the nucleus for the organization of a “loyal government.” In order to organize the unionists of the area, a “so-called” convention of the people was held at Hatteras in November, 1861. An ordinance proclaimed the Reverend Marble Nash Taylor provisional governor of North Carolina, and another declared the ordinance of secession null and void and instructed the governor to issue a call for a congressional election. The election was held and Charles H. Foster, a native of Maine and a Bowdoin College graduate, was elected to Congress. This whole Union movement was so deceptive, however, that Foster was never seated and Taylor’s duties as provisional governor were short lived.

The failure of the Hatteras government convinced the Federal government by the end of 1861 that its objectives in North Carolina, for the time being at least, should be military rather than political.

Information for this article was taken from; The Chicamacomico Races, A prelude To Courage, Fall '96 Ramparts by Bennett R. Moss and North Carolina as a Civil War Battleground, 1861-1865 by John Gilchrist Barrett, Raleigh.

Events, Seminars, Tours, etc....

February 21, 2009 A Visit from Abraham Lincoln

A Visit from Abraham Lincoln (presented by **Jim Getty** of Gettysburg). Saturday – 11:00 A.M. Cannstatter Volksfest Verein, 9130 Academy Road. Philadelphia, PA 19114. **Grand Army Museum Preservation Luncheon.** Cost: \$35/person. Choice of Beef or Chicken Parmesan. 1:00 P.M. presentation. Fundraiser raffle of prints; door prizes; books; sutlers; entertainment. To reserve: **garmuslib@verizon.net**; or call: **215-289-6484**. Deadline: February 17, 2009

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"Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the ax."

February 23, 2009 Lincoln and the Law

At four P.M. Monday February 23 at Widener University School of Law's Vale Moot Court Auditorium, the **Civil War Round Table of Wilmington**, Delaware, the nation's fourtholdest, will co-sponsor a special three hour program on *Lincoln and the Law* to commemorate the 200th birthday of President Abraham Lincoln. The panelists for the two panel discussions will include Lincoln expert, **Prof. Mark Steiner** of South Texas College of Law, Delaware Supreme Court Justice **Hon. Henry DuPont Ridgely**, Delaware Supreme Court Justice **Hon. Randy Holland**, **Assoc Dean & Prof. Michael Slinger**, Widener University School of Law and **James Swanson** of the Heritage Foundation. Widener University School of Law is located at 4600 Concord Pike, Wilmington. Since this program qualifies for continuing legal education credit as legal history, lawyers may register for three CLE credits for \$70. General admission for all others is \$20. Contact: Tom Reed, Project Manager **302-477-2070** e-mail: tjreed@mail.widener.edu

March 26, 2009 Lincoln Lives: A Discussion of the Life of Our 16th President

Lincoln Lives: A Discussion of the Life of Our 16th President. Thursday - 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. - Manor College Auditorium, 700 Fox Chase Road, Jenkintown. 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. Displays of Lincoln Artifacts & Book Sale; 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Lincoln Panel with Discussion and Q&A. Admission: \$15.00/person • \$25 for two people. For more information call: **Manor College Continuing Education Dept 215-884-2218.**

March 29, 2009 Lincoln and the Commanders of the Army of the Potomac

The **General Meade Society of Philadelphia** is hosting the **15th Annual AMART Symposium** at West Laurel Hill Cemetery Conservatory at the Chapel Bell Tower in Bala Cynwyd. The theme is "*Lincoln and the Commanders of the Army of the Potomac*". Speakers include **Ed Bonekemper, Elizabeth Varon, Rick Sauers, Tom Goodrich** and **Gary Grove**. It is from 12:00 - 5:00 P.M., includes lunch and refreshments and cost \$35/Person.

March 26-29, 2009 The 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign

13th Annual Civil War Forum Battlefield Conference, Winchester, Virginia ...this year we'll explore *The 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign* Our guide for the weekend: historian and author, **Scott Patchan**. Among other sites, we'll spend "quality time" at: Cool Spring/Snickers Gap - including a walk down to the river and a visit to the Parker House; 2nd Kernstown Battlefield, 3rd Winchester Battlefield, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. Those of you who attended the Manassas Conference will recall Scott, one of our favorite guides over the years. This year we're

tapping into another area of his expertise, the subject of his 2007 book, *Shenandoah Summer* - summarized here: <http://tinyurl.com/63d9lc>

\$275 registration includes: two full-day bus tours; two half-day optional outings; three evening buffets with after-dinner speakers. For registration and additional information, visit <http://tinyurl.com/8lsbvd>, or email civilwarforum@mac.com

April 18-19, 2009 The Encampment at Neshaminy

Details to Follow

September 11-13, 2009 Brigades at Gettysburg Profiles of the Famous and the Forgotten

The **Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides** 2009 Gettysburg Seminar: "*Brigades at Gettysburg Profiles of the Famous and the Forgotten*". The oldest professional guide service in America proudly announces its annual autumn seminar. This year we will be presenting the stories of several hard fighting but often-neglected Gettysburg brigades. The weekend includes special in-depth walking tours with experienced battlefield guides, Friday night reception, two breakfasts and two lunches, Saturday night banquet, maps and materials, and more. Price for the weekend: \$310. Discount for early registration (before June 1): \$280. For additional information or to register online, visit: www.gettysburgtourguides.org/seminars.html or write: ALBG Seminar, P. O. Box 4152, Gettysburg PA 17325

Pennsylvania Civil War Death Certificates

Here is a link to the website about the cause to get the older state death certificates available online:

<http://users.rcn.com/timarg/PaHR-Access.htm>

Having vastly greater access to these records would make it considerably easier to trace back to a Civil War relative or to help someone who wants to learn more about particular Civil War veterans. Please pass this information onto your members and anyone you know who is into Pennsylvania history and genealogy.

The more people and organizations that support this effort the more likely it is to succeed.

Thank you for any help you can give us.

Tim Gruber 610-791-9294

The Civil War Institute

Manor College in conjunction with the Delaware Valley CWRT has announced the line-up for our Winter/Spring 2009 semester, with a new feature! REGISTER 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE FIRST CLASS AND RECEIVE AN EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!!

All classes are Act 48 approved. Class hours are 6:30 till 8:30 PM, except where noted for Saturdays. Call (215) 884-2218 to register or for an application for the certificate program. Manor College is located at 700 Fox Chase Road

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"Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm."

Continued from page 7 - Civil War Institute
in Jenkintown, PA.

*Core Courses **Elective Courses

****Opening the War in the West
- 0.6 CEUs - Act 48 approved -**

While 1862 was a near unbroken string of failures for the Army of the Potomac in the East, the Union forces had things their own way in the West. The North's first great victory was Fort Donelson. Pea Ridge, the largest battle west of the Mississippi, was also a victory for the Union, even though the Federals were outnumbered. But the butcher's bill was high, too; Shiloh was the war's first great bloodbath, but tragically, not its last.

Dates: Saturdays, March 14 - 28
Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 PM
Fee: \$55, Early Bird \$45
Sessions: 3
Instructor: Jerry Carrier

****Abraham Lincoln - The "War Years"
- 0.6 CEUs - Act 48 approved -**

Abraham Lincoln cannot be separated from the Civil War; the war years were his presidency. This course takes an in-depth look at those 50 months of his presidency, starting with his election in 1860 to his inauguration and the coming of the Civil War. Each year was a crucial one dealing with war, politics, slavery, Congress and the Cabinet, as well as the press attacks and the difficulties in finding the general he wanted. His 50 months in the White House ended at Ford's Theater on April 14, 1865. This course will look at who he was, what he accomplished in those years, and what is the Lincoln legacy.

Dates: Wednesdays, February 25 - March 11
Time: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Fee: \$55, Early Bird \$45
Sessions: 3
Instructor: Hugh Boyle

***The Gettysburg Campaign
- 1.2 CEUs - Act 48 approved -**

Two mighty armies engaged in the greatest single battle ever

fought in the Western Hemisphere. A detailed examination of events and each day's activity will be covered. Did the 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 right in his view of the battle?

Dates: Thursdays, March 5 - April 23 (no class
March 26 & April 9)
Time: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Fee: \$90, Early Bird \$80
Sessions: 6
Instructor: Frank Avato & Jim Dover

****City Life in the Civil War - 1.2 CEUs - Act 48
approved -**

Most of the Civil War's battles were fought in the country or near small towns, and few of the nation's cities heard the sound of gunfire, but that doesn't mean the cities were untouched by the war. This course examines how the war affected Philadelphia, New York, Washington, Richmond, Baltimore and New Orleans.

Dates: Mondays, March 30 - May 11
(No class April 13)
Time: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Fee: \$90, Early Bird \$80
Sessions: 6
Instructor: Delaware Valley CWRT

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