

# Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

February 9, 2017

The Civil War: April 12, 1861 - May 9, 1865

## *“This will make a man of me: The Life and Letters of a Teenage Officer in the Civil War”*



Join us at **7:15 PM** on **Thursday, February 9th**, at **Camden County College** in the **Connector Building, Room 101**. This month's topic is *“This will make a man of me: The Life and Letters of a Teenage Officer in the Civil War”*



*2nd Lieutenant  
Thomas James Howell*

This presentation focuses on the life of seventeen-year-old Thomas James Howell, who was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Union Army during the American Civil War. Tom Howell's experiences give us a rare look at the war through the eyes of a teenage officer. The letters that he wrote home to his family tell the story of a young man coming of age in the army. As a young officer, he faced particular challenges as he sought to earn the respect of both the men he commanded and his superiors. Despite the challenges he faced, Howell believed that it was his duty to serve and by serving he would prove that he was a man. This study represents a valuable addition to Civil War literature by offering a unique perspective of the war as it was seen through the eyes of a teenage officer.

James Scythes earned a B.A. in history at Rowan University and has a Master of Arts in history from Villanova University. He is a tenure track Instructor of History at West Chester University of Pennsylvania. His research interests focus on antebellum America, American Civil War, and 19th century military history. Professor Scythes has published a number of encyclopedia articles, and in July 2016 Lehigh University Press published his first book, “This Will Make a Man

of Me”: The Life and Letters of a Teenage Officer in the Civil War. He also serves on the Board of Trustees at the Gloucester County Historical Society, and is a member of the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable of Philadelphia.

### *Notes from the President...*

Welcome to the month of Presidents and love. Your new Board has planned some fine activities for us this year. We had a great 40th anniversary luncheon last month. Thank you to everyone who attended, those who staffed the event and those who planned and prepared for it. It was pointed out to me after the luncheon that in my attempt to thank everyone and not leave anyone out, I left someone out. Thus I publicly thank my wife **Debbie** for letting me out to “play” Old Baldy and for her support in my time as President of this organization. I might add that the weather was good on January 21st, thanks **Mike** and **Steve**. Congratulations to **Rob Weber** on winning the Iwo Jima print.

Last month three of our members shared their travel experiences with us and we thank them. Another fine program **Dave Gilson**. This month another member, **James Scythes**, will share his research into the letters of Thomas James Howell of Camden who served in the Third New Jersey Infantry. Bring a friend to enjoy this story.

The 40th anniversary glasses that those who attended the luncheon received will be available for purchase at our meetings. We had a fine start in writing our history with the program book. We will be continuing this project, let us know if you would like to assist on it.

*Join us around 5:30 on the 9th at the Lamp Post for dinner.*

**Rich Jankowski, President**

**WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>**

***Join us at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday,  
February 9th, at  
Camden County College,  
Blackwood Campus,  
Connector Building, Room 101.***

# Today in Civil War History

1862 Sunday, February 9

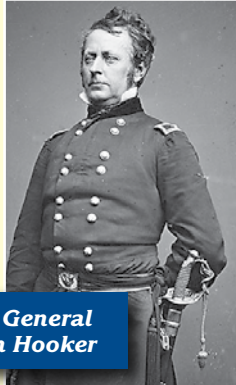
## Eastern Theater/Naval Operations

Following the Union success at Roanoke Island, Federal gunboats cross Albemarle Sound toward the mouth of the Pasquotonk River in search of remaining Confederate vessels in the area.

1863 Monday, February 9

## Eastern Theater

General Hooker takes steps to improve the intelligence position of the Army of the Potomac. Outpost duty had been neglected, and it was said that the Confederates knew what was happening within the Union lines as well as the Union commanders did. On taking command, Hooker had found not one record or document at his headquarters that gave any information with regard to the enemy. General Butterfield, one of his corps commanders, will write "There was no means, no organization, and no apparent effort to obtain such information. We were almost as ignorant of the enemy in our immediate front as if they had been in China. An efficient organization for that purpose was instituted, by which we were soon enabled to get correct and proper information of the enemy, their strength and movements."



Major General Joseph Hooker



Major General Daniel Adams Butterfield



Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont

## Naval Operations

Du Pont experiences delays in obtaining supplies for his fleet. This also applies to the other Union commands who likewise run short of machine oil, clothes, and dried fruit. Coal is not always such a serious problem since it could often be obtained locally. Freshwater supplies for the smaller vessels, on station for weeks at a time, are always a source of concern as they lack facilities for producing their own water.

1864 Tuesday, February 9

## Eastern Theater

109 Union officers dig their way out of Libby Prison, Richmond. It is the largest escape of the war; 59 men reach Union lines, 48 are recaptured, and two drown. The leader of this audacious escape, Colonel Thomas E. Rose, is unfortunately among those returned to the prison.



Colonel Thomas Elwood Rose

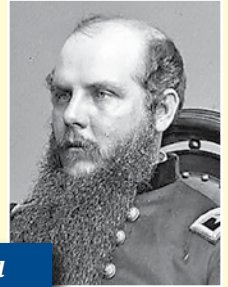
Libby Prison



1865 Thursday, February 9

## Eastern Theater

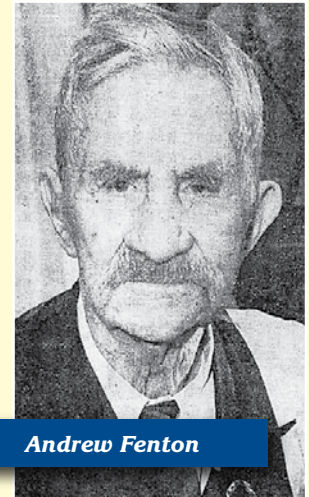
General John M. Schofield assumes command of the Department of North Carolina, joining his XXIII Corps at Fort Fisher, ready for an assault on Wilmington. Robert E. Lee persuades President Davis to offer amnesty to deserters who return to their regiments within 30 days.



Lieutenant General John McAllister Schofield

## New Jersey's Last Union Sailor

On April 19, 1945 – less than three weeks before the end of World War II in Europe – The New York Times carried an article headlined, "**Veteran of Monitor, 101, Dies.**" The UP news report, datelined the previous day from Vineland, N.J., began, "Andrew Fenton, who served on the iron-clad Monitor during the Civil War, died today in the Soldiers Home here." Thus was born a tortuous tale that continues to this day.



Andrew Fenton

The Times' report drew the attention of numerous historians over the years. Professor Jay Hoar of the University of Maine wove an elaborate tale describing how Fenton suffered the partial loss of sight and hearing in action against Fort Sumter when one of the

### Veteran of Monitor, 101, Dies

VINELAND, N. J., April 18 (U.P.) —Andrew Fenton, who served on the iron-clad Monitor during the Civil War, died today in the Soldiers Home here at the age of 101. Mr. Fenton was flag-bearer when the United States took possession of Alaska. He leaves a widow, a son, five grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

The New York Times  
Published: April 19, 1945

Monitor's guns unexpectedly discharged, and how he later dramatically survived the iconic ironclad's sinking. (The North's Last Boys in Blue, Higginson Book Co., 2006, pp. 352-57.) Hoar largely relied on an interview of the ancient mariner published in 1938.

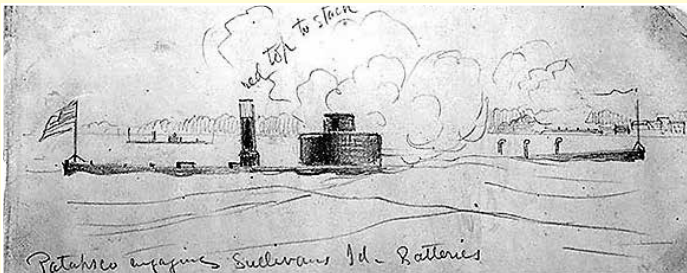


A government record of Fenton's naval service from the U.S. Veterans Administration

On the other hand, John Quarstein, Director of the USS Monitor Center in Newport News, Virginia, concluded that there is no proof for Fenton's purported service on the Monitor. Indeed, Quarstein goes much further. He categorically and repeatedly asserted in his book on the ship's crew that "there is no indication of any naval service" by him. (The Monitor Boys, The History Press, 2011, pp. 299-301.) The Monitor Center's website similarly now asserts that "no records of naval service have been found" for Fenton.

Both Hoar and Quarstein, as well as The Times, were mistaken. Moreover, there are abundant official records documenting Andrew Fenton's distinguished military service, making him New Jersey's last known survivor of the Union Navy and its ironclad monitors, albeit not the USS Monitor.

Andrew Fenton was born in St. Augustine, Florida, on Christmas 1843, but his family moved to Philadelphia when he was an infant. According to unearthed Navy records, Fenton enlisted for three years as a 1st Class Boy at the U.S. Naval Rendezvous in Philadelphia on September 2, 1862, on the receiving ship Princeton. Soon thereafter, he was sent to the



An artist's sketch of the Patapsco

USS Patapsco, a Passaic-class monitor first launched later that month from Wilmington, Delaware, and commissioned on January 2, 1863, when Fenton was formally assigned to her.

On the afternoon of November 2, 1863, while firing at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, a premature explosion of one of Patapsco's guns instantly killed a crew member and injured several others, including then-landsman Andrew Fenton. (Official Records, Ser. I, Vol. XV, p. 88.) And on the night of January 15, 1865, the Patapsco, on station some 700 yards from Fort Sumter, struck a torpedo and sank in the harbor within 15 seconds, taking the ship's complement with her. Most perished, but Ordinary Seaman Andrew Fenton survived. (Official Records, Ser. I, Vol. XVI, pp. 178-79.) Two weeks later, Fenton reported for duty on the USS Pawnee, which saw action the following month in South Carolina against Confederate artillery batteries.

On July 26, 1865, Pawnee was decommissioned at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where Fenton was honorably discharged the same day, according to the ship's final muster roll. However, Fenton was not done serving his country. One year later he re-enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and after that term expired, he enlisted yet again.

After his years at sea, Fenton made his home in Fairton and Mount Holly, N.J., as well as in Philadelphia, where he was a member of Anna M. Ross G.A.R. Post No. 94. In 1881, he married Susan Cecelia Bamford of Bridgeton, N.J., one year later having a son, Andrew Percy Fenton. On April 18, 1945, the old sailor passed away in Vineland, being buried in Overlook Cemetery in Bridgeton, marking the end of a direct link to the Civil War and its transformation of naval warfare.

Steve Glazer  
Lieutenant Colonel, USA (Ret.)

## An Air of Celebration

There was an air of celebration and serious purpose during the luncheon for the 40th Anniversary of the Old Baldy CWRT on January 21, 2017. And the friendly atmosphere made you feel you were welcomed home among friends. The program was so enjoyable: from the presentation of the well deserved awards to the hard work champions that have kept alive the round table, and led the charge for the continuance; to hearing the marvelous, rich voice of

Charlie Zahm and his stirring performance through story and song of Captain James Haggerty of the Irish Brigade.

All in the room believed in the utmost value of the round table, of educating the public and each other about the momentous tragic conflict from which we all spring. For it is the story of the United States at its tipping point; would we survive as one nation? And that desperate question was answered



by President Lincoln's determination that the Union must be saved, though, with the horrific blood and sacrifice of so many; human and animal.

The understanding of our devastating struggle to remain united must be passed forward to coming generations and it is the mission which shines so brightly in the Old Baldy CWRT. **Congratulation to all.**

Nancy Bowker

## A Few Words about Our 40th Anniversary Luncheon

Our 40th Anniversary Luncheon was a "huge" success all "Thanks" to all the committees who worked so hard at making sure every detail was in place. It was interesting to hear members that have been a part of Old Baldy for many years give testimonials of people and events past.

Our new officers were installed and a delicious buffet lunch was served. We were able to keep a secret from Rich with a well-deserved award made specially for him and presented to Rich by Bob, Herb and Harry were both given awards for their service and dedication to Old Baldy. It was an important day to honor our members for making our round table progress.

The afternoon was made even more special with Charlie Zahm and his presentation of Captain James Haggerty of the Irish-American Brigade. Not only was there a story but also song about the history of the brigade which was both entertaining and at the same time full of history. We all learned a part of history that may not have been as familiar as some and were very impressed with his presen-

tation. Charlie got a standing ovation from all who attended and continued talking about the program way after the luncheon was over.

Forty years of being a round table is a long time with many stories and history to tell. Our anniversary booklet is the start of Old Baldy history. We hope to do more research so that we can continue where we left off in this booklet. There is a long and important story to tell and much time and effort was put into this first part of the story. It is a huge project and one we hope to continue as months and years go by.

**HAPPY 40th TO OUR OLD BALDY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE! We are just beginning for there is a lot more to come.**



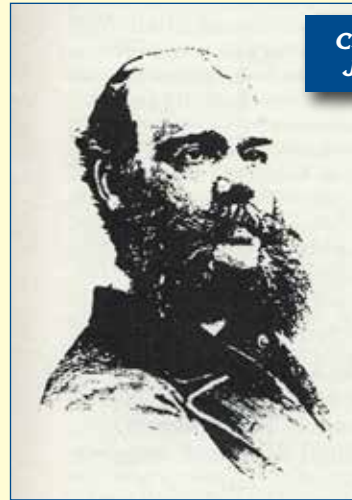
# The Confederacy's European Ironclads

Breaking the Federal naval blockade of the Southern coast was an important Confederate war aim. This prompted a major effort to build an ironclad fleet. Many existing vessels were ordered converted to ironclads, while others were placed for the construction of a number of wholly new ironclad vessels, and by the end of the Civil War the Confederate Navy actually had more or less begun more than two dozen ironclad vessels, many of which were never completed.

Foreign procurement played a significant part in the Confederate ironclad program, and a number of important vessels were ordered, some of which were actually built.

1. *Stonewall*, a 900-ton wooden-hulled, armored ram built in France 1863- 1864. She was sold while building to Denmark, but shortly reverted to the ownership of her builders, who subsequently again sold her to the Confederacy. Commissioned in the Confederate Navy in early 1865, she had reached Havana before learning of the war's end. The Spanish government handed her over to the U.S., which subsequently sold her to Japan, where she had an interesting career as *HIJMS Kotetsu*.

2. *Cheops*, a sister to *Stonewall*, never entered Confederate service, and was sold by her builders to Prussia, which put her into service as *Prinz Adalbert*. The first ironclad in the



CSA Naval Agent in Europe  
James Dunwoody Bulloch

Prussian fleet, she served only to 1878, her wooden hull showing rot as early as 1871.

3. "The Glasgow Frigate," a wooden-hulled, broadside ironclad, was sold to Denmark when the contract was canceled in 1864, and served as *HDMS Damark*..

4. *North Carolina*, an ironclad ram built by Laird's of Birkenhead, but taken over by the British government in

1863 when it was discovered she was being built for the Confederacy, in violation of neutrality. She served as *HMS Scorpion*, until disposed of in 1903.

5. *Mississippi*, sister to *North Carolina*, taken over by the British as *HMS Wivern* until disposed of in 1922.

6. "The Samauda Turret Ship" was laid down in 1863 by a British firm in the hope the Confederacy would purchase her. Although the Confederate Navy showed some interest, negotiations got nowhere and she was sold to Prussia in 1865. Commissioned as *Arminius*, she served in various capacities until 1901.

NorthSouth

Ship	Tonnage	Dimensions	HP=Knots	Armament	Armor	Crew
<i>Stonewall</i>	1,535	171'10" x 32'8" x 14'4"	1200 = 10.0	1 x 10" MLR 2 x 3.7" MLR	4.75"	130
<i>North Carolina</i>	2,751	224'6" x 42'4" x 16'3"	1450 = 10.5	4 x 9" MLR	4.5"	153
Glasgow Frigate	4,670	270' x 50' x 19'6"	1000 = 8.5	12 x 8" MLR 12 x 26 pdr MLR	4.5"	530
Samauda Turret Ship	1,800	207'4.5" x 35'9"x14'1"	1440 = 11.0	4 x 72 pdr MLR	4.5"	132

Key: Tonnage is deep load. Dimensions are length between perpendiculars (except for *North Carolina*, where overall is shown), maximum beam, and maximum draught. HP stands for indicated horse power. Armament, is battery designed for Confederate use, with MLR indicating muzzle loading rifles. Armor, in all cases was of iron, with the maximum side protection shown, which was usually backed by several inches of wood; the *Samauda Turret Ship* had 10-inch armor on her turret faces. Crew is the normal wartime complement.

## Civil War Correspondents: Courageous in Battle, Fighting for "Scoops"

Little has been written about the bravery of Civil War artists. Armed only with pen and pencil this unheralded group had to get exceptionally close to the front lines and to naval battles. They were collectively known as the "Bohemian Brigade," and my grandfather, Alex Simplot, was one of the best known.

Cited by historians as "probably the only artist to capture the life of a Civil War correspondent," and having a specially keen eye for illustrating battles on water as well as on land, Alex was said to like the excitement of conflict. Although he's been dead many years, you might say ;my grandfather is still hanging around I in the form of his

sketches that provide insight into the life of the Civil War press corps, and of his encounters with such 'generals as Grant, Fremont, Rosecrans, and Halleck and their troops.

In the days when he was a reporter with his pencil and pad, there was no way for war correspondents to cover a battle without being in the middle of it. Alex liked to sketch and take notes about his fellow correspondents. He noted: "The correspondents sat up until late into the night to help forget the war around them, holding long philosophical discussions, drinking heavily, and generally having a good time." Such camaraderie often concluded in "some sort of pitched battle" with pillows, boots or whatever the corre-

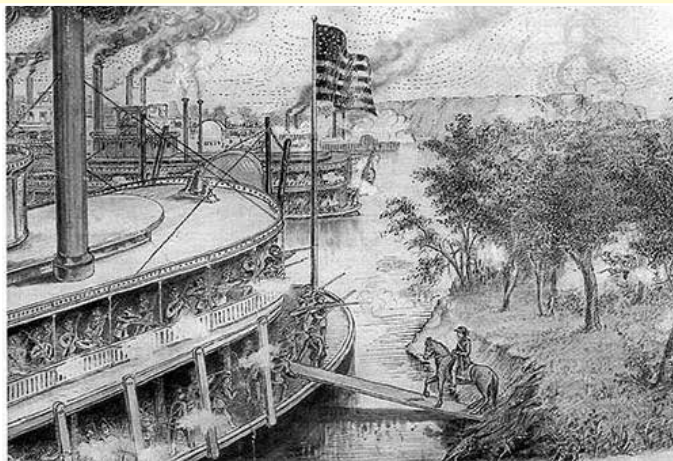


War correspondents killing time at the Virginia Hotel in Jefferson City, Missouri. Simplot included himself in the sketch, his back to the viewer, boot in hand.

spondents could find. And my grandfather was said often to be in the midst of them when not drawing the serious ones. An account of one such battle notes, "The 'Commercial' threw a haversack which hit 'Harper' [Simplot] in the bread basket and doubled him into a folio—knocking him against the 'World,' who, toppling from his center of gravity, was poising, a plethora bed thick, with dire intent when the upturned legs of a chair caught and tore it open, scattering the feathers through the surging atmosphere. In falling, he capsized the table, spilling the ink wrecking several literary books, extinguishing the brief candle that had faintly revealed the sanguinary fray, thus abruptly terminating hostilities, but leaving the panting heroes still defiant and undismayed."

Grandpa was one of a kind when it came to illustrative journalism. For example, according to the State Historical Society of Iowa he is believed to have been the only combat artist who ever had an offer from a commanding officer, General Sam Sturgis, to halt a march of 3,000 men so he could sketch it. Alex knew General Grant personally. He grew up in Dubuque, Iowa—near Grant's Galena, Illinois, home, and had a special entrée to Grant since his close friend was John Rawlins, Grant's adjutant general, who was a former school classmate of his at Union College in New York. In fact, it was Rawlins who recommended Alex to be Grant's special artist. He sketched the general with his father at a fireside discussion, and one of his paintings of Grant hangs in the Civil War history museum in Galena.

Alex's first sketch for Harper's Weekly was of troops embarking from Dubuque on a steamship for war. Harper's hired him as "special war artist," and from then on the name Simplot began to appear regularly in the magazine. He became, in fact, one of Harper's most prolific artists, with more than seventy published sketches to his credit.



At the conclusion of the Battle of Belmont, Grant rode back to ensure that no stragglers were being left behind. Arriving at the river bank he ordered the transport to cast off, then rode his horse aboard by means of a plank laid from boat to shore—the last man to leave the battlefield.

Sometimes correspondents went on special "expeditions." For instance, Alex noted that he participated in a midnight ride in Missouri with officers to a home outside Union lines, with a pistol tucked under his belt, to check out reports of hidden arms and ammunition. They were met at the door by the elderly owner and his two daughters, who explained that all they had were a few trunks left with them by a merchant in nearby Warsaw. "The gentleman invited the invading Yankees into his home and served his guests coffee and sandwiches...while his daughters played the piano for them." But upon leaving, the guests insisted that the trunks be opened. They at first found only silk goods, but under the silks were "many boxes of firearms and other munitions of war." The host expressed great surprise, claiming that the trunks had only been left with him for safekeeping, but mus-

kets were also found hidden in the slave quarters. Chivalry was not dead, however: the officer in charge agreed to confiscate only the war goods and leave the silk. The daughters were grateful for their treatment and "gave the raiders presents." The raiding party then rode quietly back to Union lines.

Shortly after General Halleck was called to Washington as general-in-chief, Simplot joined the army of General Rosecrans, and witnessed a fierce engagement at luka, an outpost east of Corinth. He also went on a river expedition against Port Pillow on the Tennessee side of the Mississippi River. Then it was on to

Memphis where a Union naval force of river steamboats easily defeated eight lightly armed and armored Confederate boats. Since he was the only artist with the Union force, his drawings of the battle and subsequent surrender of the Memphis post office are the only real pictorial record of those important events. His painting of the battle now hangs in the Chicago Museum of History.

A combat sketch artist, of course, also had to work fast. My grandfather would draw as quickly as possible to capture



A patrol commanded by Lieutenant Morrissey searches for weapons at a house near Warsaw, Missouri.

the action, knowing that Harper's New York office would add final touches. He drew mostly with a pencil, like most of the magazine's artists. The drawings were then rushed back to Harper's, where they were transformed into wood en-

gravings. Harper's liked working with such illustrations, as photography was still in its infancy and required too much equipment and too much time for shooting and developing. The artist needed only his pad of paper and a pencil.

My grandfather had to leave the field shortly before the end of the war, due to a severe case of dysentery. After the war he became a teacher and engraver and sketched many scenes of old Dubuque. He told my folks about broken and bloated bodies lying around battlefields and kept an old bayonet, a cannon ball, and a toy cannon around the house. But he didn't go into much detail about the war, and when he did,



After leaving Warsaw, the correspondents find a vacant school house in which they can write their dispatches.

it was brief—as though he wanted to avoid the memories. Alex is buried in a Civil War section of a cemetery in Dubuque, along with most of his family. It is appropriate that he is surrounded by numerous graves of Union soldiers. Who knows, some may be depicted in his drawings.

Article and illustrations contributed by John Simplot, Mendota Heights, MN NorthSouth

## Virtual Civil Wars

During their heyday in the 1880s, seven cycloramas conceived by European artists enticed audiences with depictions of Civil War action at Gettysburg, Atlanta, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Second Manassas, Lookout Mountain/Missionary Ridge and the Hampton Roads combats of March



Boston Cyclorama Building

1862. All seven owed much of their appeal to a novel union of sculpture and painting destined to inspire even further innovation. Only two of those works survive to dazzle modern audiences: the Battle of Atlanta cyclorama at Atlanta's Grant Park and one of the four versions of its Battle of Gettysburg counterpart located at Gettysburg National Military Park.

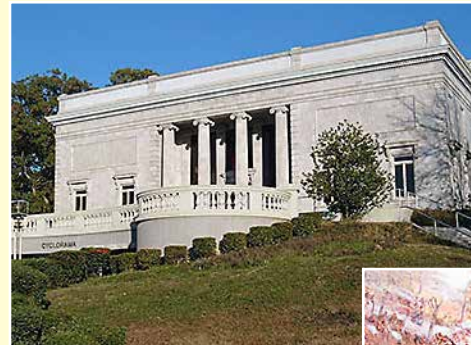
The Atlanta and Gettysburg spectacles each embody impressive efforts at historical accuracy and physical grandiosity. A team supervised by French artist Paul D. Philippoteaux produced the original Gettysburg cyclorama, the first circular panorama of any Civil War subject, which opened in 1883 in Chicago.

They then fabricated a duplicate for exhibit in Boston in 1884, the same copy now displayed in Gettysburg. That version's canvas measured 365 feet in length and 42 feet in height. From a viewpoint immediately behind the



Gettysburg Cyclorama Sections of painting

viewpoint immediately behind the



Atlanta Cyclorama Building and section of painting



Union front line, the cyclorama depicts the Confederates' "High Water Mark" assault of July 3, 1863. Artists did the actual painting in Europe, consulting documents and veteran recollections that Philippoteaux had gathered in the United States as well as photographs and sketches of the Gettysburg battlefield as it appeared in 1882.

In Milwaukee a team, overseen by Germans Hein and August Lohr consulted the same types of sources while completing the Battle of Atlanta cyclorama. They even retained the services of famed Civil War artist and eyewitness Theodore Davis and painted him into the scene.

The Atlanta depiction measured 360 feet in length and 60 feet in height, larger in the latter dimension and in overall area than the Boston version of Gettysburg. The Atlanta cyclorama opened to the public in 1887 in Detroit, offering viewers a perspective of being within Union counterattacks against General John Bell Hood's sallies from Atlanta on July 22, 1864. The cyclorama's owners, like those of its Gettysburg counterpart, soon made a practice of employing Civil War veterans to narrate, answer audience questions and amplify claims of veracity.

Hyperbolic publicity for the artworks often implied a level of authenticity that invited skepticism. One published account claimed that a Gettysburg survivor pointed to the Philippoteaux canvas and exclaimed, "You see that puff of smoke...Wait a minute till that clears away and I'll show you just where I stood." When Union General Oliver O. Howard contributed an article on Atlanta to The

Century magazines "Battles and Leaders" series, its editors added an engraved-copy detail of the Atlanta cyclorama as an accurate portrayal of the "Recapture from the Confederates of De Gress's Battery."

Spectators lost no time in identifying flaws, however, and such criticism continues to this day. On the Gettysburg cyclorama they noted a house that did not exist during the battle, Confederate Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Armistead's inaccurate presence on a horse, and the omission of a line of Federals tasked to shoot shirkers. Writing to Henry J. Hunt in 1884, fellow general and Gettysburg veteran John Gibbon opined the cyclorama was "not very true to fact" in portraying his division's movements and the number and position of the attacking Confederates.

Critics of the Atlanta spectacle have pointed out the ahistorical presence of the 8th Wisconsin Infantry's famous mascot, "Old Abe," the appeasing of Atlantans' sensibilities with the post-1887 conversion of a group of Confederate prisoners to Union deserters, replacing Theodore Davis' likeness with that of Benjamin Harrison. Harrison was a presidential candidate in that year, but he was miles from the spot where he is depicted as a Union colonel in 1864.

Despite such criticisms, the pioneering use of three-dimensional foregrounds reflected their creators' ambition to surpass even the illusions of Europe's previous generation of circular two-dimensional panoramas. The newer cycloramas introduced objects as a transition dimension between the audience and the canvas. The Civil War panoramas appearing previously in the United States had lacked that evolutionary stage, mainly presenting canvas-bound art in flat displays either stretched between vertical spindles or hung. (The Gettysburg cyclorama's transitional zone,

now mainly vanished, is currently slated for reconstruction.)

The cyclorama's pleasures of surrendering logic to aesthetics prompted John Gibbon to insist that sins of historical fact should never prevent Henry Hunt's own visit to the spectacle. Gibbon himself made three pilgrimages in close succession and explained the appeal to his friend: "I never before had an idea that the eye could be so deceived. . . I say nothing more than the truth when I tell you it was difficult to disabuse my mind of the impression that I was actually on the ground. . . grass and bushes are growing. Along this slope are scattered various natural objects—a haystack full size, a piece of a stone wall, a gun, one wheel off."

Another letter, penned by a visitor to the Atlanta cyclorama, summarized the effect more succinctly: "It is as if one looked not at a picture but away over miles and miles of hills and valleys and fields."

Superlatives notwithstanding, cycloramas hinted only feebly at additional sensations: sound, motion and the passage of time. The engrossed veteran's "puff of smoke" would forever appear silently, and never dissipate on the Gettysburg cyclorama. Edward J. Austen's *Battle of the Merrimac and Monitor* thus represented a new and expanded alliance of media to attempt more accurate representations of Civil War battles. Austen used the springboard of his own extensive experience in fabricating cycloramas, including a biblical artwork supervised by Philippoteaux, to reach a new stage in Civil War—panorama development, one that united sculpture, painted vistas and puppetry to give the nascent art of cinema a run for its money. *Battle of the Merrimac and Monitor's* extensive itinerary in 1907–1911 suggests that audiences grasped and appreciated Austen's efforts.

N.G.H. NorthSouth

## Taw-ker-Taw-ker, De-gata-ga

One and a half miles west of Southwest City, Missouri (population 550), is the Old Ridge Polson Cemetery. On this back country road, just inside Delaware County, Oklahoma, is the final resting place of Confederate Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, the only Indian to attain the rank of general for either the North or South. He was also the last Confederate general to surrender, laying down his arms June 23, 1865, at Doaksville near Fort Towson, Indian Territory, in what is now southeastern Oklahoma.

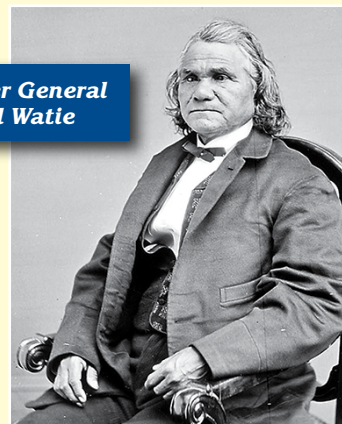
Stand Watie was born December 12, 1806, near present-day Rome, Georgia, in what was then the Cherokee Nation. He learned the English language at a mission school, became a planter and helped publish the Cherokee newspaper *Phoenix*. As a signer to the 1836 Treaty of New Echota, which relocated the Eastern Cherokees to what is now western Oklahoma and split the Cherokees into two factions, Watie became the leader of the minority (or treaty) group.

There Stand Watie married Sarah C. Bell, by whom he had three sons and two daughters. When the Civil War began, Watie sided with the Confederacy and raised a company. In late 1861, he received a colonel's commission and took command of the 1st Cherokee Mounted Rifles. He participated in several key battles in the Trans-Mississippi Theater, including Wilson's Creek (MO.), Pea Ridge (Ark.), and Bird Creek, Honey Springs and Cabin Creek in Indian Territory.

On May 10, 1864, Watie received the rank of brigadier general. At the close of the war, the brave, reluctant Cherokee general agreed to cease hostilities against the Union, return home, and remain at peace with the United States. He also was to offer no indignities against the whites or Indians of various tribes who had been friendly to or engaged in the service of the United States during the war. Agreeing to these terms in late June 1865, he never officially surrendered. This occurred nearly three months after Appomattox.

Stand Watie died September 9, 1871, while visiting Honey Creek. A Mason of high degree, he was buried with full Masonic rites. A beautiful marble stone, quarried from his native state of Georgia, was unveiled at his grave by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, May 25, 1921.

**Brigadier General  
Stand Watie**



Submitted by Rex Jackson of Neosho, Missouri  
BlueGray



# January 12th Meeting

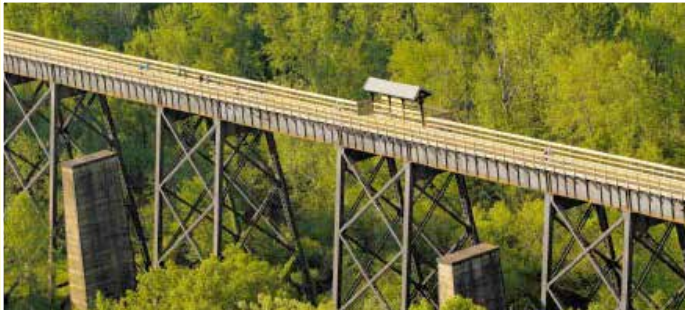
## “On the Trail with Old Baldy”

by Bill Pacello

### Appomattox 150th

Jim Heenehan

Jim Heenehan gave a presentation of his visit to Appomattox, VA, for the Sesquicentennial ceremonies of General Robert E. Lee's surrender to General Ulysses Grant on April 9, 1865. Jim spoke about the various National Park Service events he attended from April 9 - 12, 2015, concerning the 150th anniversary of the surrender of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.



After a brief mention of his visit to High Bridge on the Appomattox River that the federals captured the morning of April 7, 1865, to continue their pursuit of Lee, Jim described the Sesquicentennial events themselves. These began with the Commemoration Ceremonies on the morning of April 9, and featured a variety of speakers, including historian Ed Bearss. Next were photos of that afternoon's surrender reenactment at the McLean House. "We got to see Grant ride up to the house with his staff, Lee's subsequent departure after signing the surrender, and Grant and his staff out on the McLean porch to see Lee off," Jim related.

Jim closed with photos of the reenactment of the Confederate infantry laying down of arms that occurred at the Surrender Triangle on April 12, 1865, and included the "salute" between Union General Joshua Chamberlain and Confederate General John B. Gordon.

### Monterey Pass

John Galie

John Galie presented on the Battle of Monterey Pass which occurred on July 4, and July 5, 1863, after Gettysburg. Upon the defeat of the Army of Northern Virginia by the Army of the Potomac at the battle of Gettysburg, General Robert E. Lee was forced to retreat back to Virginia. The South Mountains were blocking his escape and he only had two passes to get across them. He sent General John Imboden, with a wagon train of wounded soldiers 17 miles long, as well as the corps wagon trains of Major General (MG) A.P. Hill, and MG Longstreet through the Cashtown pass. Lee then sends Major John Harman with MG Richard Ewell's trains as well as all three infantry corps through the Monterey Pass. According to Google Maps, the walk was about 16 miles and 6 hours in duration on a good day. Union General, H.J Kilpatrick, Calvary Division, is sent to intercept the confederate trains in the Monterey pass.



A small band of Confederate Calvary troopers of 50 to 200 strong hold off over 4000 of Kilpatrick's troops for over 6 hours in complete darkness and a torrential rainstorm. Kilpatrick finally breaks through and destroys 250 to 300 trains as well as capturing 1360

prisoners before the Confederate troops can regain control of the pass.

### Beauvoir and The Confederate Memorial Civil War Museum

Kathy Clark

Kathy's presentation was on the history of Beauvoir, the last home of Jefferson Davis in Biloxi, Mississippi. There is a long history beginning with James Brown and his family of 11 children as the first occupants of the home. After the Civil War Samuel and his wife Sarah purchased the property and renamed



it Beauvoir, "beautiful to view". It was Sarah Dorsey who took up the cause for former Jefferson Davis' financial and personal difficulties by renting him one of the cottages where he could live and write

his memoirs. Upon Sarah's death, the house was willed to Varina Davis' daughter "Winnie" until her death in 1898. Varina Howell Davis inherited the plantation and lived there for about five years and then gave it to the Division of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans. It became a retirement home for Confederate Veterans, Wives and Widows until 1953. It is now a memorial to Jefferson Davis called the Mount Vernon of the Confederacy. There was much damage during hurricane Katrina but after 10 years of work much has been repaired or replaced.

The second presentation was about Kathy's visit to the Confederate Memorial Civil War Museum in New Orleans. It opened its doors on January 8, 1891 and continues to commemorate over 120 years of Southern heritage and tradition. It is the oldest museum in the State of Louisiana. It was a meeting place for veterans to tell their stories and to house and protect their relics, many of which were donated by the soldiers who used them. The members also had the opportunity to see a 20-minute video on the history and many items on display in the museum.

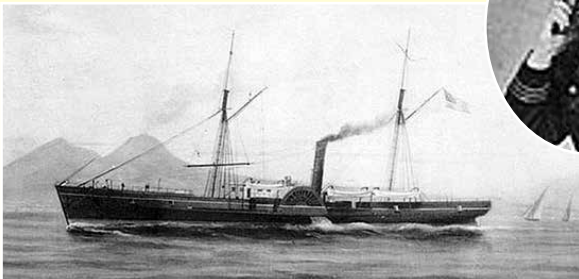
## US Navy Ships named in memorial of the Battle of Gettysburg

### USS Gettysburg - 1858-1879

The "Douglas" was built in Glasgow, Scotland as a packet ship. She was bought by the Confederacy in 1863 and renamed the "Margaret and Jessie" She was used as a blockade runner and captured by the Union Navy in November 1863. The ship was renamed the "Gettysburg" and was now part of the blockading squadron of which she captured three CSA ships. She was in on the Battle of Fort Fisher. She finished out the Civil War and was sold in Genoa, Italy in 1879 on her last mission as a survey ship.

### Lieutenant Roswell Hawks Lamson

Roswell was the first Captain of the USS Gettysburg after her capture.



### USS Gettysburg PCE 904 - 1945-1960

The Patrol Craft Escort USS Gettysburg was built by Williamette Iron and Steel Corporation in Oregon. The ship was commissioned in 1945 and was assigned to the Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor and used as a Naval Reserve training ship. She was sold for scrap in 1960.

### USS Gettysburg CG 64 - 1991

The Guided Missile Cruiser Gettysburg is part of a series of ships that are named after Battles that had an affect on the history of the United States. The ship was built by Bath Iron Works in Maine. The ship was commissioned in Philadelphia and the home port is Mayport, Florida. The ship is still in active service.



*To all members who attended the Old Baldy Luncheon a huge "Thank You" for making the event such a success. The planning committee worked very hard to organize and put together such an important part of our history. We had testimonials of our long time members, the installation of officers and a delicious buffet lunch. I think the afternoon would not have been complete without Charlie Zahm and his presentation of Captain James Haggerty of the Irish-American Brigade. He was wonderful having story and song about the history of the Irish Brigade and James Haggerty and presented in a way that was both entertaining and historical. A huge "Thank You" to Charlie for an extremely wonderful presentation.*

*We were able to keep a secret from Rich with the special award Bob presented him at the luncheon. Rich was surprised and the uniqueness of the award was awesome. Rich works hard to make Old Baldy grow and prosper.*

*Thank You to the committee that worked on the Program book and History of our Organization. That tale will continue as we research more of our story. A special thanks to Bob for his organizational skills and wonderful way he timed everything down to the second. As new VP of Old Baldy I have huge shoes to fill and hope I can continue to help Old Baldy reach its goals. This was a job well done full of heart and dedication! It was a wonderful way to celebrate 40 years of our round table.*

Kathy

## Coming Events

### Saturday, February 11; 11am-2pm

Open House and Tours at the Union League of Philadelphia. These are free tours of the Union League at 140 South Board Street, Philadelphia, PA. Information: 215-563-6500

### Saturday, February 11; 11am

Joe Becton: Celebrating Black History Month with Tory Jack Day at the Abraham Staats House, 17 Von Steuden Lane, South Bound Brook, NJ 08880. Seating begins at 10:30am; free, donations excepted. Information: [www.staatshouse.org](http://www.staatshouse.org). Joe will present the "Evolution of the Blues" about 300 years in the development of this American Art Form. After the presentation tour the house and view the exhibit entitled "The History of Jazz in Black and White".

### Sunday, February 12; 2pm

Mr. Davis Veasey will discuss his 2014 book "New Jersey's Colonial Architecture Told in 100 Buildings". The talk will focus on the wide variety of 17th and 18th century architecture in NJ. Cumberland County Historical Society; Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical and Historical Library, 981 Ye Greate Street, Greenwich, NJ. Information: 856-455-8580

### Monday, February 13; 12 noon

Timothy Huebner: The Civil War and American Constitutionalism provides a reexamination of the Civil War era, exploring how the African-American understanding of constitutional equality helped transform a war for the Union into a war for Emancipation and Equal Rights. Free/members; \$5/students; \$8/non-members: National Constitution Center, Independence Mall, 525 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA. For information: 215-409-6767 or [constitutioncenter.org](http://constitutioncenter.org)

### Monday, February 13; 10am

Celebration Parade! The annual Lincoln Birthday Ceremonies sponsored by the Union League of Philadelphia. Civil War Military units, civilians and heritage groups are welcome to march. The parade starts at the Union League and walk to Independence Hall.

Gather at the Union League by 10am; free parking for participants near the Union League but must arrive before 10am to get you complimentary pass. Complimentary lunch for participates at 12 noon. Contact: Dr. Andy Waskie, 215-204-5452 or awaski@temple.edu

### Wednesday, February 15; 1pm

Voices in the Struggle for Emancipation: Civil War and Emancipation Studies at Temple University sponsors the 14th annual Black History Conference in Walk Auditorium, Ritter Hall, 13th and Cecil B. Moore Ave. on the main campus of Temple University. Free. Information: contact; Dr. Andy Waskie, 215-204-5452 or awaski@temple.edu

### Saturday, February 25

Annual Major Octavius V. Catto Honor Ceremony at the corner of 6th and Lombard Street, Philadelphia, PA. Wreath - Laying Ceremony. PA National Guard Award Ceremony to follow at 12:30pm in the Union League with the awarding of the "Major Catto Medal". Union League of Philadelphia, 140 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA

### Winterfest at Cooper River Park,

5300 N. Park Drive, Pennsauken, NJ. The YMCA sponsors the park transformed into a Winter Wonderland with ice shows, treats and family ice skating. Hours: 5pm-9pm Mon-Thurs.; 5pm-10pm Friday; noon-10pm Saturday; noon-9pm Sunday through February 14. Admission \$6/adult; \$4/children ages 5-12 under free. Information: www.skatewinterfest.com or 856-341-3416

### Second Saturday Tours of Paulsdale

noon every month on the second Saturday. Alice Paul Institute, 128 Hooten Road, Mount Laurel, NJ. Contact: claires@alicepaul.org or 856-231-1885. www.alicepaul.org/newsevents/

## Old Baldy Civil War Round Table Clothing Items

### 1 - Short Sleeve Cotton Tee - \$23.00

Gildan 100% cotton, 6.1oz.

Color Options: Red, White, Navy, Tan

Sizes: Adult: S-3XL Adult Sizes: S(34-36); M(38-40); L(42-44); XL(46-48); XXL(50-52); 3XL(54-55)

### 2 - Long Sleeve Cotton Tee - \$27.00

Gildan 100% cotton, 6.1oz.

Color Options: Red, White, Navy

Sizes: Adult: S-3XL Adult Sizes: S(34-36); M(38-40); L(42-44); XL(46-48); XXL(50-52); 3XL(54-55)

### 3 - Ladies Short Sleeve Polo - \$26.00

Anvil Pique Polo - 100% ring-spun cotton pique.

Color: Red, White, Navy, Yellow-Haze

Logo embroidered on left chest

Sizes: Ladies: S-2XL Ladies

Chest Size Front: S(17"); M(19"); L(21"); XL(23"); 2XL(24")

### 4 - Mens Short Sleeve Polo Shirt - \$26.00

Anvil Pique Polo - 100% ring-spun cotton pique.

Color: Red, White, Navy, Yellow-Haze

Logo embroidered on left

Sizes: Mens: S-3XL

Chest Size Front: S(19"); M(21"); L(23"); XL(25"); 2XL(27"); 3XL(29")

### 5 - Fleece Lined Hooded Jacket - \$48.00

Dickies Fleece Lined Nylon Jacket 100% Nylon Shell; 100% Polyester Fleece

Lining: Water Repellent Finish

Color: Navy or Black

Logo Embroidered on Left Chest

Size: Adult S-3XL

Chest Size: S(34-36"); M(38-40"); L(42-44"); XL(46-48"); 2XL(50-52"); 3XL(54-56")

### 6 - Sandwich Caps - \$20.00

Lightweight Cotton Sandwich Bill Cap 100% Brushed Cotton;

Mid Profile Color: Navy/White or Stone/Navy

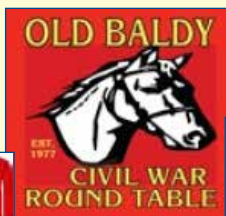
Adjustable Closure

Orders will be shipped 2 weeks after they are placed. All orders will be shipped UPS ground, shipping charges will be incurred. UPS will not ship to PO Boxes, please contact Jeanne Reith if you would like to make other shipping arrangements.

Items are non-returnable due to customization, please contact Jeanne Reith if you have questions on sizing.

Jeanne Reith Tuttle Marketing Services 1224 Gail Road West Chester, PA 19380 jeanne@tuttlemarketing.com 610-430-7432

<https://tuttlemarketing.com/store/products/old-baldy-civil-war-round-table-651>



### 7 - Irish Fluted Glass - \$7.00

Can be used with either Cold or Hot Liquids

Items can be seen and ordered from the Old Baldy Web Site or the Manufacture's Web Site.

## Delaware Valley CWRT Civil War Institute at Manor College

Our updated Civil War Institute at Manor College class format has undergone several changes that allow a greater variety of choices for students who in the past have found it difficult to attend 3-week or 6-week courses.

Our semesters now include multiple-week courses, 2-week courses and 1-night seminars. Classes may be taken as part of the certificate program or individually. Completion of four core courses, and any 12 nights of electives (any combination of length) will now be required to receive the certificate.

Our core courses are being reduced from six weeks to four weeks each. This will allow a student to earn a certificate after attending 56 hours of instruction (32 hours of core courses plus 24 hours of electives), instead of an average of 72 hours of instruction.

Manor College is located at 700 Fox Chase Road in Jenkintown, PA. You may call (215) 884-2218 to register or for an application for the certificate program, or online [www.manor.edu/cont-ed/civil-war/courses.php](http://www.manor.edu/cont-ed/civil-war/courses.php)

**Class hours are 6:30 till 8:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.**

**\* Indicates Core Course**

**\*\* Indicates Elective Course/Seminar**

### Spring 2017

The following seminars and courses will be offered in the Spring 2017 semester. Of special interest are two classes that will – for the first time – add material on World War II to the Institute’s curriculum. All classes will begin at 6:30 p.m. on the dates specified.

#### **\*Life of the Common Soldier 8 hrs**

Who served in the armies of the Blue and the Gray? What were their living conditions? What were their thoughts as they marched into battle? This class describes the soldier’s life, which has been described as “weeks of utter boredom, interrupted by moments of sheer terror.”

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman**

**Thursdays, February 16 and 23, March 2 and 9**

#### **World War II Seminar**

#### **\*\*Pearl Harbor: The Surprise Was Complete 2 hrs**

The shout of “General Quarters” rang throughout the fleet. Explore the political background, eyewitness accounts and historical analysis of the attack that brought the United States into WWII.

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman**

**Monday, March 13**

#### **\*\*The Role of Horses in the Civil War 2 hrs**

Horses and mules played a critical role in the Civil War – as mounts for officers and cavalry, or as mobile power for artillery and supplies. This class also describes some well-known and lesser-known horses of the Civil War

**Instructor: Nancy Caldwell**

**Wednesday, March 22**

#### **\*\*Philadelphia in the Civil War 2 hrs**

The city and its citizens played a major role during the Civil War, particularly as suppliers of war materiel.

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman**

**Wednesday, April 5**

#### **\*\*The Battle of Fredericksburg 4 hrs**

On Dec. 13, 1862, the Army of the Potomac, under Ambrose Burnside, suffered its most disastrous defeat. Futile assaults on Confederate positions brought about the slaughter of many Union soldiers. This class will explore why the Union lost, portray the brave men who fought, and the strategies and blunders that made this battle one of the most memorable in the Civil War.

**Instructor: Walt Lafty**

**Wednesdays, April 12 and 19**

#### **World War II Seminar**

#### **\*\*The Music That Got Us Through World War II 2 hrs**

During the war, radios were filled with new patriotic and sentimental songs. The music, highlighted by many original 78 rpm records, that has been woven into the fabric of our American culture is presented. Learn about the composers, bands and singers that got us through the war.

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman**

**Wednesday, May 3**

#### **\*\*The Irish in the Civil War 4 hrs**

Both Blue and Gray had a generous touch of green. So why did these men fight and die so bravely in a country that was new to them? And what generals were more gallant than the Union’s Phil Sheridan and the Confederacy’s Pat Cleburne?

**Instructor: Hugh Boyle**

**Mondays, May 8 and 15**

## Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2016/2017

**February 9 – Thursday**

**“This will make a man of me: The Life and Letters of a Teenage Officer in the Civil War”**

**James Scythes**  
(Author, Historian)

**March 9 – Thursday**

**“The Lost Gettysburg Address”**

**David T. Dixon**  
(Author, Historian)

**Questions to**

**Dave Gilson - 856-547-8130 - ddsghh@comcast.net**

**Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia  
Camden County College  
Blackwood Campus - Connector Building  
Room 101 Forum, Civic Hall, Atrium**

**856-427-4022    oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net  
Founded January 1977**

**President: Richard Jankowski**

**Vice President: Bob Russo**

**Treasurer: Herb Kaufman**

**Secretary: Bill Hughes**

**Programs: Dave Gilson**

**Trustees: Harry Jenkins**

**Kathy Clark**

**Frank Barletta**

**Annual Memberships**

**Students: \$12.50**

**Individuals: \$25.00**

**Families: \$35.00**

**Editor: Don Wiles - cwiles@comcast.net**

**2017 Dues are Due**