

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

May 10, 2018

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

“With Cadence & Clarion Call”

Bugle, Fife & Drum: The Military Music of Camp & Field

Join us at **7:15 PM** on **Thursday, May 10th**, at **Camden County College** in the **Connector Building, Room 101**. This month’s topic is **“With Cadence & Clarion Call”**

The beginnings of American military music essentially started when William Diamond, the drummer of the Lexington Militia, beat the call to arms that gathered the men who fired “the shot heard ‘round the world”, launching the colonists into a long struggle for our independence. The British troops brought with them their splendid military bands.

In contrast, the Continental troops were as meagerly equipped musically as they were militarily. Despite a shortage of fighting gear and supplies, the Continental Army and its’ leaders were able to launch an effective fighting force. And the musicians as well always seemed to be able to muster a few drums and a fife or two to stir the hearts of Washington’s men. These fifers, drummers — and later buglers — held important places from the American Revolution, on through the Civil War, continuing and further evolving up to today’s modern military.

As a student, performer, and instructor of this brand of music, Harry Jenkins has done numerous presentations on the topic. With his earlier focus on “Drums & Drummer Boys”, his new presentation takes a broader view that includes the fife and the bugle, as well as the drum, and their history and use primarily as “Field Music”. He describes the musicians’ roles and duties — in camp, on the march, and on the battlefield. Using audio and visual recordings, along with authentic replica instruments, Mr. Jenkins describes the instruments they used and demonstrates some of the music they played. Weaving this together with military and historical records, letters-home and post-war memoirs, this presentation will paint a picture of these musicians — many of whom were mere youngsters — told through stories and vignettes — some sad and poignant, some receiving high praise, some heart-warm-



Harry Jenkins

ing, and others often humorous. The presentation will conclude with an inspiring DVD presentation of various military music ensembles recorded in live performances, showing the rich history of the traditional music, as well as its evolution in today’s military pageantry.

Notes from the President...

May brings us flowers, the Sixers in the playoffs, winning baseball and music. Glad we all survived April, as the changing weather temporarily sidelined some of our members. Our Board is updating our membership program and the Symposium Committee is planning an awesome event for October 20th. At the Board meeting, **Don Wiles** was granted Emeritus status joining **Mike Cavanaugh**. He was very touched by this honor for his years of service to the Round Table including producing our newsletter for the last 14 years. Enjoyed the World War I article from Mike in the April issue of our newsletter.

Last month **Randy Draais** shared the story and photos of William H. Tipton. All in attendance were enlightened on this interesting man. This month our own **Harry Jenkins** brings us his recently updated program on Military Music during the War. Bring a friend or two to what will be an entertaining presentation. **Dave Gilson** has some fine programs planned for the rest of the year. Look forward to see you there to learn more about the War era.

Thank you to **Bob McLaughlin** for aiding Don Wiles in completing our April newsletter so it could be distributed to our members. Our Community Out Reach Program is taking shape thanks to **Rosemary Viggiano**. **Bob Russo** will be presenting his program on Arlington National Cemetery on July 2nd at the Jewish Community Center in Cherry Hill. It may also be presented at the Cherry Hill Library in the Fall. Our enlargement of **Ellen Preston’s** map of South Jersey Civil War sites will be first displayed at the South Jersey History Fair. Come out to see it. Special shout out to Rich Rosenthal of the North Jersey CWRT for hooking

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

Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net

Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table

us up with a lady who donated several boxes of Civil War books to our Round Table.

The Board is considering adding Membership Status (Active, Inactive, Honorary, Emeritus) to the Membership Category define in the By-Laws to identify our member's level of interest. We are also working on consolidating the several lists that currently exist into one master list. All other list will be generated from this list. The Membership Team is reviewing these matters and will report on them later this month. Thank you to **Dave Gilson** and the Membership Team for updating our program to accommodate our growth. We will be expanding out Social Media program over the Summer to share our message with more of our fellow citizens.

May 19th is the South Jersey History Fair at the Historic Gabreil Daveis Tavern. Join us on May 26th at Montgomery Cemetery in Norristown for the wreath laying at General Hancock's tomb. Our involvement with the tomb pre-dates the formation of our Round Table. Check **Kathy Clark's** regular event listing for additional happenings in the area. We are considering another Clean-up Day at the GAR Museum in Philadelphia, let us know if you are interested.

Come join us around 5:30 before our meeting on the 10th at the Lamp Post Diner for dinner with Harry.

Rich Jankowski, President

Today in Civil War History

1861 Friday, May 10

The Confederacy

President Davis and Navy Secretary Mallory set in motion the purchase of a force of ironclads for the Confederate Navy. James D. Bullock has already been ordered to Britain for this purpose.

Trans-Mississippi

Federal troops under Captain Nathaniel Lyon march to Camp Jackson at St Louis, and take 637 pro-Confederate state militiamen prisoner, as well as seizing 10,000 muskets. On the way back to the city curious onlookers are incited to riot, and four soldiers are killed along with 27 or more civilians.

1862 Saturday, May 10

Eastern Theater

Pensacola, Florida, is occupied by the Federals.

Western Theater

There is an exchange of fire between Confederate batteries and the Union gunboats Cincinnati and Mound City at Fort Pillow, Tennessee.

1863 Sunday, May 10

Eastern Theater

At 3.15 p.m. Stonewall Jackson raises his head and says,

"No, no, let us pass over the river and rest under the shade of the trees." Then he closes his eyes for ever. The Confederacy has lost a soldier whose brief military career established him as one of the greatest commanders in history. He is irreplaceable and his death casts a deep shadow over the victory of Chancellorsville.

1864 Tuesday, May 10

Eastern Theater

Sheridan's Union cavalry ride along the North Anna, drawing Stuart's Confederate horsemen after them and fighting a brisk skirmish at Beaver Dam Station. Lee's entrenchments at Spotsylvania are in the shape of an inverted "V," the apex covering important high ground. Union probes continue all day but a sharp attack at 6p.m. breaks into this central salient, christened "The Mule Shoe."

Western Theater

Johnston learns of McPherson's attempt to turn the Confederate left through Snake Creek Gap. Polk's Confederates are hurrying to join Johnston's badly outnumbered army. Sherman issues orders for his whole force to swing past Johnston's left.

1865 Wednesday, May 10

The North

President Johnson proclaims that armed resistance "may be regarded as virtually at an end." He warns foreign powers against providing further assistance to those Confederate warships still on the open sea.

Western Theater

Lieutenant-Colonel Pritchard's 4th Michigan Cavalry capture President Davis, his wife, and the few senior Confederate leaders remaining with him at Irwinsville, Georgia. General Breckinridge escapes with Colonel Wood, and they manage to reach Florida and sail to Cuba in an open boat. The fate of the Confederate president is open to much speculation, with many voices crying for a speedy trial and execution for treason. After the fall of Mobile, CSS Nashville, Morgan, and some blockade runners retreated up the Tombighee River where they were soon sealed off by Federal warships. Union warships assembled for an attack by the Confederate flotilla commander, Captain Eben Farrand, who wrote Rear-Admiral Thater, USN, asking for terms. Today the surviving warships and their crews surrender at Nanna Hubba Bluff. William C. Quantrill, one of the most notorious Confederate guerrilla leaders, is fatally wounded by Federal irregulars near Taylorsville, Kentucky. The 27-year-old ringleader will linger until June 6. His gang included Frank and Jesse James, plus Cole Younger.

Lending Library by Frank Barletta

A "Lending Library" of the books written by the speakers will continue at this month's meeting.

Please return books checked out so other members can check one out.

Ships of the Civil War

Editor's Note:

During the upcoming issues we will try to show an example of the different types of ships that were used in the Civil War. Some of the types of ships are; Gunboats, Cruisers, Raiders, Tin Clads, Ironclads, Rams, Blockade Runners, Submarines, Cutters, Transports, Cotton Clads, Hospital Ships and Etc...

The Union Navy's Iron Ships

Confederate VS Union Ironclads...

At the outbreak of the war, the US Navy did not have any ironclad warships, but most of the US Navy remained loyal to the Union. To overcome this disadvantage, the Confederacy decided to pursue the construction and purchase of ironclads as a way to gain some sort of naval advantage. In response to this effort, the Union began building their own ironclads. This included two main styles, the ocean-going Monitor class ironclads and City class ironclads used for river warfare.

An ironclad is a steam-propelled warship protected by iron or steel armor plates used in the early part of the second half of the 19th century. The ironclad was developed as a result of the vulnerability of wooden warships to explosive or incendiary shells. The first ironclad battleship, Gloire, was launched by the French Navy in November 1859. The British Admiralty had been considering armored warships since 1856 and prepared a draft design for an armored corvette in 1857; in early 1859 the Royal Navy started building two iron-hulled armored frigates, and by 1861 had made the decision to move to an all-armored battle fleet. After the first clashes of ironclads (both with wooden ships and with one another) took place in 1862 during the American Civil War, it became clear that the ironclad had replaced the unarmored ship of the line as the most powerful warship afloat. This type of ship would come to be very successful in the American Civil War.

First battles between ironclads: the U.S. Civil War

The first use of ironclads in action came in the U.S. Civil War. The U.S. Navy at the time the war broke out had no ironclads, its most powerful ships being six unarmored steam-powered frigates. Since the bulk of the Navy remained loyal to the Union, the Confederacy sought to gain advantage in the naval conflict by acquiring modern armored ships. In May 1861, the Confederate Congress appropriated \$2 million for the purchase of ironclads from overseas, and in July and August 1861 the Confederacy started work on construction and converting wooden ships.

On 12 October 1861, the CSS Manassas became the first ironclad to enter combat, when she fought Union warships on the Mississippi during the Battle of the Head of Passes. She had been converted from a commercial vessel in New Orleans for river and coastal fighting. In February 1862, the larger CSS Virginia joined the Confederate Navy, having been rebuilt at Norfolk. Constructed on the hull of USS Merrimack, Virginia originally was a conventional warship made of wood, but she was converted into an iron-covered casemate ironclad gunship, when she entered the Confederate navy. By this time, the Union had completed seven ironclad

gunboats of the City class, and was about to complete the USS Monitor, an innovative design proposed by the Swedish inventor John Ericsson. The Union was also building a large armored frigate, the USS New Ironsides, and the smaller USS Galena.

The first battle between ironclads happened on 9 March 1862, as the armored Monitor was deployed to protect the Union's wooden fleet from the ironclad ram Virginia and other Confederate warships. In this engagement, the second day of the Battle of Hampton Roads, the two ironclads repeatedly tried to ram one another while shells bounced off their armor. The battle attracted attention worldwide, making it clear that the wooden warship was now out of date, with the ironclads destroying them easily.

The Civil War saw more ironclads built by both sides, and they played an increasing role in the naval war alongside the unarmored warships, commerce raiders and blockade runners. The Union built a large fleet of fifty monitors modeled on their namesake. The Confederacy built ships designed as smaller versions of Virginia, many of which saw action, but their attempts to buy ironclads overseas were frustrated as European nations confiscated ships being built for the Confederacy — especially in Russia, the only country to openly support the Union through the war. Only CSS Stonewall was completed, and she arrived in American waters just in time for the end of the war.

Through the remainder of the war, ironclads saw action in the Union's attacks on Confederate ports. Seven Union monitors, including USS Montauk, as well as two other ironclads, the ironclad frigate New Ironsides and a light-draft USS Keokuk, participated in the failed attack on Charleston; one was sunk. Two small ironclads, CSS Palmetto State and CSS Chicora participated in the defence of the harbor. For the later attack at Mobile Bay, the Union assembled four monitors as well as 11 wooden ships, facing the CSS Tennessee, the Confederacy's most powerful ironclad and the gunboats CSS Morgan, CSS Gaines, CSS Selma.

On the western front, the Union built a formidable force of river ironclads, beginning with several converted riverboats and then contracting engineer James Eads of St. Louis, Missouri to build the City-class ironclads. These excellent ships were built with twin engines and a central paddle wheel, all protected by an armored casement. They had a shallow draft, allowing them to journey up smaller tributaries, and were very well suited for river operations. Eads also produced monitors for use on the rivers, the first two of which differed from the ocean-going monitors in that they contained a paddle wheel (the USS Neosho and USS Osage).

The Union ironclads played an important role in the Mis-

Mississippi and tributaries by providing tremendous fire upon Confederate forts, installations and vessels with relative impunity to enemy fire. They were not as heavily armored as the ocean-going monitors of the Union, but they were adequate for their intended use. More Western Flotilla Union ironclads were sunk by torpedoes (mines) than by enemy fire, and the most damaging fire for the Union ironclads was from shore installations, not Confederate vessels. The quick pace of change meant that many ships were obsolete as soon as they were finished, and that naval tactics were in a state of flux. Many ironclads were built to make use of the ram or the torpedo, which a number of naval designers considered the important weapons of naval combat. There is no clear end to the ironclad period, but towards the end of the 1890s the term ironclad dropped out of use. New ships were increasingly constructed to a standard pattern and designated battleships or armored cruisers.



The use of Iron Plates over a wooden frame.



The use of Iron Railroad Rails on a wooden frame



Union Ironclads



USS Cairo



USS Galena

USS Choctaw



Cutaway of USS Essex



USS Essex



USS Eastport



USS Benton



USS Keokuk



USS Dictator



USS Indianola



USS Mound City

USS Ozark



USS Onondaga



USS New Ironsides



USS Tuscumbia



USS Winnebago



USS Rattler



USS Monitor



USS Chillicothe



USS Lafayette



After Years Of Iron Men And Wooden Ships Came The Time Of The Ironclad And The Armor Punchers

by Thomas B. Dickey, August 79, CWTI

After the development of rifled cannon, nothing excited naval ordnance engineers more than the "stand off" battle between the ironclads Monitor and Virginia. The engagement raised a challenging question to proponents of naval warfare on how to penetrate or punch through armor plating

In 1861 Secretary of the Confederate States Navy Stephen F. Mallory reviewed the development of ironclad ships in the English and French Navies. In a letter to the Navy Department he stated: "I regard the possession of an iron-armored ship as a matter of the first necessity. Such a vessel at this time could traverse the entire coast of the United States, prevent all blockades, and encounter with a fair prospect of success the entire Federal Navy."

After the sunken frigate Merrimack was raised from the waters of the captured Gosport Navy Yard at Norfolk, Virginia, 4 inches of iron plate was fitted to her sloping sides to repel shot and shell. She was renamed CSS Virginia.

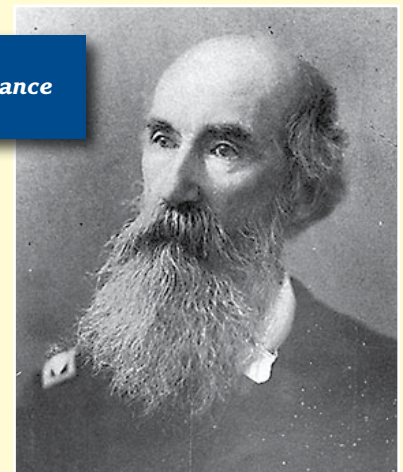
There were two theories at the time as to how projectiles should be used in fighting ironclads. One was to punch or penetrate the armor. The other method preferred was "racking" or "battering." After the encounter between the Monitor and Virginia it was clear to Confederate naval engineers what must be done to provide a type of ordnance that would be effective against armored and ironclad ships.

If a shot could be made to penetrate or punch through the armor, causing an eruption around the hole, then flying splinters of broken wood backing and metal fragments would become lethal missiles. Inside the Monitor where manpower and machinery was concentrated in and around the turret, a shot capable of punching or penetrating the armor would create havoc. Subsequent monitor-class ships had their turret armor increased to 11 inches instead of 5 inches as on the original vessel. When this became known to the Confederates it was a challenging assignment for ordnance engineers to develop

**Commander
Navy Bureau of Ordnance
John M. Brooke**

projectiles capable of punching or penetrating the heavier-clad turrets.

Commander John M. Brooke, head of the Confederate Navy's Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography, while on a tour of the Tredgar Iron Works in



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Confederate "Hopson" Punch projectile failed because of shattering on impact.

Richmond, Virginia, noted a machine employed in punching holes

in cold iron produced a 1 1/4 inch diameter hole in plates 2 inches thick, with a single blow. Observing that the punch on this machine was flat headed, Brooke thought this to be

the correct configuration for an armor-punching shot. Through exhaustive experiments he determined that

a cast iron shot generally broke into many pieces when fired against armor. His other alternative was to use wrought iron, though this type of metal was deficient in hardness. Designing around this drawback, he tapered the projectile slightly at the nose. This had the effect of compressing the iron in upon the head of the shot. Even so most of the energy was

expended in deforming the projectile instead of

punching through the armor. Brooke also experimented with a projectile brought forward by Lucien Hopson of Lampassas, Texas. The nose of the Hopson projectile was in the form of a three-sided pyramid. The drawback was that the iron nose

could not be made strong enough to cause the shot to penetrate the armor. in September

1863, after the artillery exchange with the forts in Charleston Harbor

where the Hopson bolt was used, Rear Admiral John Dahlgren of the Federal Navy commented: "The enemy fired some shots of wedge shape, samples of which were picked up on the decks of the Lehigh—an absurd practice originating in the brain of

some wild inventor." Brooke's experiments showed that with a heavy powder charge flat-headed wrought-iron bolts could be driven through the thickest armor, pro-



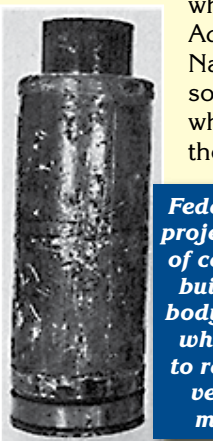
Chilled-nose 8-inch Parrott shot was the most effective Federal armor-puncher.



Fired Confederate wrought iron, flat headed 100-pounder deformed by impact.



An 8-inch English Armstrong "Blind" shell used by Fort Fisher's defenders against the Federal fleet.



Federal "Stafford" projectile consisted of central bolt and build-up wooden body for lightness, which enabled it to reach very high velocity for armor-punching

vided they struck squarely and at right angles. The theory of "racking" was to waste no power in punching mere holes, but to so increase the weight of the shot that the entire blow would be expended in straining, loosening and dislocating the armor, breaking its fastenings and tearing it off, after which the vessel would be easily destroyed by shells. At the same time racking could break the ribs and sides of the vessel and render her unseaworthy. The Federal Navy retained use of heavy projectiles since the War of 1812 when the heavier armament of their frigates won over the lighter armed British ones, and they placed their faith in this system. One disadvantage was that the rate of fire of the mammoth 15-inch guns was about once every seven minutes . . . about the same time as it took to fire naval cannon in the 17th century. But when these mammoth shells did strike, the effect was usually to render the enemy ship hors de combat. The Federal ordnance instruction for 15-inch guns stated, "at close quarters—say 50 to 150 yards—60 pounds of powder per shot may be used for 20 rounds." Most iron-clad battles were at very close quarters, sometimes with the antagonists momentarily touching each other, though naval gunnery had been developed into a long range arm also. The Federals' Swamp Angel Battery in South Carolina fired over five miles into downtown Charleston; guns that caused Bill Arp, one of the great humorists of the day, to exclaim, "Blamed if they wasn't shooting at me before I knew they were in the country."

The Rebels did more harm racking the monitors with their rifle bolts than with armor-punching ordnance. in April 1863 Rear Admiral Samuel F. DuPont attacked the Confederate forts in Charleston Harbor with nine ironclads, the Passaic, Weekhawken, Montauk, Patapsco, Catskill, Nantucket, Nahant, Keokuk, and the powerful broadside ironclad New Ironsides. At the end of one half hour the Rebels had poured 3,500 projectiles on the attackers, at the rate of 160 shots per minute. Five of the ironclads were put out of action and the Keokuk could be seen coming out toward the bar, disabled and sinking. The Nahant, Patapsco, Passaic and Nantucket were all disabled having the turret fastening bolts dislodged, flying off, wounding the gun crews, disabling gun carriages and jamming the turrets. The Keokuk, which had been struck ninety times, sank the next morning in only 13 feet of water and for the first time the Confederates got the chance to examine a Federal monitor at first hand. Confederate Major D.B. Harris stated, "That her turrets within 4 1/2 feet of their tops had been pierced by four 10 inch shot and one 7 inch rifle shot, and a wrought-iron Brooke bolt had penetrated seven-eighths of its length and was stuck in the armor plating." He observed that the 10-inch spherical shot was just as effective at 900 yards as the Brooke bolts against such structures as the turrets of the Keokuk.

Several months before this engagement Lieutenant Catesby ap Fl. Jones, who had been executive and ordnance officer of the CSS Virginia during her encounter with the Monitor, stated in a letter.

"It is doubtful whether we have a gun of sufficient power and penetration to do much harm to the new iron-clads of the monitor class. But what guns fired singly may fail to accomplish may be effected by a simultaneous concentrated fire, the guns being all aimed at the same part of the vessel, and fired, as we say in the Navy, by broadsides. It is probable that no vessel yet built can withstand the shock and concussion of a number of heavy projectiles striking the same

place at the same time. If the sides are not penetrated the concussion would disable the men fighting the guns.

The point aimed at in those of the monitor class should be either the port, when it presents itself, or that part of the turret next to the deck and nearest the guns fired. If the lower part of the turret is struck it would probably be prevented from revolving, which would diminish the efficiency of the vessel one-half, for then the lateral training would have to be done by the helm. "



**Federal Navy
80-pounder chilled-
nose Hotchkiss ar-
mor-punching bolt.**

In his letter Jones was touching on the Achilles heel of the Monitor . . . the jamming of the turrets. A shrewd reporter

for the Scientific American magazine, having observed the building of the first Monitor, wrote in February 1862:

"The successful operation of

the devices for supporting and turning the turret appears to us more doubtful than that of any other portion of this battery. The turret weighs 140 tons, and while it is hung upon a central shaft, it must be constantly turned to point the cannon, and it is subjected to the concussions not only of its own heavy guns, but also the battering of the enemy's artillery." On several occasions the Federals made good use of their big 15-inch guns. In January 1865 the Confederate ironclad Virginia II, a namesake of the earlier famous model, was aground and under artillery fire from Fort Parsons at Trent's Reach on the James River. While occupied with the fort, she did not realize a much greater danger was at hand. The monitor Onondaga, a double-turreted ship mounting two 15-inch guns and two 150-pounder Parrott rifles, maneuvered to a position broadside of the Virginia and planted a 15-inch solid shot squarely above the after-port knocking a clear hole through her 6-inch armor and wood backing, spreading a whirl of iron fragments and wooden splinters throughout the interior killing six and wounding fourteen of the crew. Luckily she was floated by the rising tide and moved out of range.

At the Battle of Mobile Bay in August 1864 the CSS Tennessee was hit by a 15-inch shot from the Union monitor Manhattan. Lieutenant A.D. Wharton of the Tennessee described the

scene:

"The Monogahela was hardly clear of us when a hideous looking monster came creeping up on our port side, whose slowly revolving turret revealed the cavernous depths of a mammoth gun. 'Stand clear of the port side,' I shouted, a moment after a thunderous report shook us all, while a blast of dense, sulphurous smoke covered our port-holes, and 440 pounds of iron, impelled by sixty pounds of powder, admitted daylight through our side, where, before it struck us, there had been over two feet of solid wood, covered with five inches of solid iron. This was the only 15 inch shot that hit us fair. It did not come through; the inside netting caught the splinters, and there were no casualties from it. I was glad to find myself alive after that shot. "

Luckily for the Tennessee the Tecumseh struck a torpedo and sank while making a bee line for the Confederate ironclad. Her 15-inch smooth bores were loaded with conical, flat-headed steel bolts which would have meant disaster to the Tennessee at short range.

In June 1863 the Federal Navy celebrated an impressive victory for their 15-inch guns. The Union monitor Weehawken caught the Confederate ironclad Atlanta making a run for the open seas. The latter ran aground in Wasaw Sound and the Weehawken took its time working into position only 300 yards from the Atlanta. She fired five shots and four struck home. It was all over in fifteen minutes. One shot wounded sixteen men and prostrated forty more who were knocked insensible from the shock. The Federals' effort in manufacturing a pierce or punch projectile was the 8 inch Parrott bolt. Its body was made entirely of cast iron, but the short nose was chilled to temper the metal where the stress would be the greatest. The Union and Confederate naval engineers soon learned that armor of less than 4 1/2-inch thickness was very vulnerable to armor punching bolts and were always on the lookout for any battery which might have armor-punching projectiles. This was particularly true of the Federal "tin-clad" fleet in the waters of the Mississippi River which had armor of less than 1 inch thickness.

The turrets of the later class monitors had 11-inch armor plating making them practically impenetrable. The armor plating was laminated to a great extent and this allowed the force of the blow from a shot to be absorbed in bending the plates without breaking. The ironclad Galena with its 3-inch armor plating was pierced thirty times from plunging fire in artillery duels with powerful Confederate batteries perched high above the James River at Drewry's Bluff. During the siege of Fort Fisher the Confederates had at their disposal the latest in English armor piercing projectiles. They were the invention of the famous English gunmaker Sir William Armstrong. The projectile was known as the Armstrong "blind" shell and it was made of what was then known as low steel with very thick side walls. There was no fuse. The thin oval cap in the nose collapsed as the shell struck the armor and the heat generated by the projectile entering the armor set off the powder. The sides were so thick that they withstood the explosion and funnelled the blast straight forward to blow its way through, much like modern-day armor-piercing shells. As the shell struck, so quickly did it reach the temperature at which black powder ignites that the powder had to be contained in a woolen bag, delaying the blast until the projectile had entered the armor. It is not known how successful the Confederates were with this shell, but in all probability the Federal fleet did not get close enough to the fort to prove them effective. The Federals also used a limited number of sub-caliber projectiles. The best known was the invention of Charles W. Stafford. It consisted of a chilled iron bolt surrounded by a built up wooden body. Because of its lightness the bolt would reach a very high velocity as it left the gun. The wooden sides broke away as the shot hit the armor, and the small diameter bolt punched through.

As the Civil War drew to a close it could be said of the armor-punching projectiles that, from the hundreds of those fired in combat with limited success, the armor-puncher did not punch. When used in conjunction with the racking shot to loosen up the armor, the combination of the two was very effective.

Save the Date... October 20, 2018



Blue
Water
Navy

Brown
Water
Navy



Civil War Navy Symposium



Charlie Zahm

Symposium Music

Charlie Zahm, While Charlie Zahm is one of the most popular singers at Celtic and maritime music events in the Eastern United States, several years ago Charlie's interest in the great collection of music from the War Between the States was sparked when friends in the Civil War community *finally* convinced him that with his wide array of Scottish, Irish and otherwise traditional American songs under his belt, he was more than halfway there to a strong Civil War repertoire-and that he would be a welcome addition to that community through his music.

The Jolly Tars,

Jake Laubach, Jake began to perform at fireside while civil war reenacting in the mid 1990s. About that time Jake and Ken started working together in a pick-up band performing Civil War period music for Civil War roundtables and at a concert presented by Muhlenberg College. Since then Jake has amassed a respectable repertory of songs and tunes that span three hundred years and has added the fretless banjo, concertina, mandolin and other folk instruments to his musical arsenal.



Jake Laubach

Ken Purcell

Ken Purcell, Ken discovered bluegrass while in college, and also renewed his affection for folk music by performing in the coffeehouse scene. He played keyboard in several country and western bands in the late seventies and then discovered Irish folk and traditional music in the eighties. Although Ken still performs many genres of music, he has increasingly gravitated toward Irish music, music of the American Civil War and maritime music of the British isles.

Beginning in 2002, Ken also performed with his youngest sons in their family band for several years until the boys struck out in their own musical direction.

Presented by Old Baldy Civil War Round Table
With the Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility at Camden County College.
October 20, 2018 · 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

For Information visit:
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WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>

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Symposium to be held on board the Battleship New Jersey in her berth at Camden (Delaware River), New Jersey

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Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission
at Camden County College, the officially designated
history agency of the New Jersey Historical Commission



The Last Duel in the Confederacy

by Ashley Halsey, Jr., November, 1962, CWTI

More than a dozen Confederate officers are known to have been involved in duels or informal shooting frays over “honor” during the Civil War. Those killed or wounded in such clashes included three generals, a colonel, and a major. Quite possibly a complete list of the casualties incurred “not in the line of duty” would run much higher. Documentation of wartime duelling was, at best, fragmentary. Article 25 of the Confederate Articles of War made duelling a court-martial offense penalized by cashiering, if an officer, or corporal punishment if an enlisted man. Therefore the tendency was to overlook or hush such incidents rather than to report them. After researching the subject as much as possible—or so I thought—I belatedly discovered that what appears to have been the final Confederate duel of the war took place between two soldiers of the horse artillery battery commanded by my own grandfather, E. L. Halsey. Here, based on the unpublished memoirs of Louis Sherfessie, the guidon bearer of the battery throughout the war, is the first report of the “last Confederate duel.”
—Ashley Halsey, Jr.

In all the annals of Duelling, and certainly in such encounters during the Civil War, there can be no more remarkable engagement than the one in which two seasoned young Confederate artillerymen blazed away with revolvers at sunrise on March 19, 1865.

The antagonists were privates, no more. Both were barely in their twenties, natives of the South Carolina Low Country where temperatures and temperaments tend to hot. One came of colonial American stock and bore a distinguished name, but did not wear even corporal’s stripes after four years of service. The other was the son of a wealthy plantation owner, but hardly a typical scion of the South’s ruling, duelling aristocracy. His grandfather had been a Jewish immigrant from Poland, who toiled, prospered, and bequeathed. Meeting in deadly earnest, the two young combatants fired all charges of their service revolvers.

Although both were cool-headed veterans of many engagements, every one of their shots, when aimed at a fellow soldier in gray, missed. They walked away from the field of honor unscathed and apparently unreconciled, only to meet tragedy in another form soon afterward. The two young duellists were Thomas R. Chew and Marx E. Cohen, Jr.

Chew is believed to have been related to the prominent Chew family which settled in colonial Maryland and sent offshoots into Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas. One Chew, Benjamin, served as Chief Justice of Pennsylvania under both the Crown and the United States. His solidly built stone house, held by a small detachment of British Regulars, became a turning point in the American defeat at the Battle of Germantown in the Revolution. Another Chew, R. S., a clerk in the State Department at Washington, slipped into Charleston, S. C., a few days before the firing on Fort Sumter, as a special, private emissary of President Lincoln. Southern Chews serving the Confederacy included Maj. R. Preston Chew, who commanded the artillery



battalion in which Thomas R. Chew’s battery served for a time, and F. T. Chew, the master (navigator) of the Confederate ironclad Palmetto State at Charleston in 1863. Quite possibly the latter was a close relative of young Tom Chew.

Confederate records preserved in the National Archives reveal that Thomas R. Chew was one of the original members of the Hampton Legion, South Carolina Volunteers, the personal command of Wade Hampton. The Legion consisted of infantry, artillery, and cavalry companies. Chew enlisted in its Battery A, artillery battalion, on June 15, 1861. The nucleus of the battery consisted of Charlestonians drawn from an earlier unit, the Washington Artillery, among them being the writer’s grandfather, E. L. Halsey, then a sergeant. Thomas R. Chew apparently served with the battery during its major campaigns in Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the Carolinas. The unit’s activity was impressive. It participated in 143 battles and skirmishes, fired more than 30,000 rounds of 12-pounder ammunition, wore out the four imported Blakeley field pieces which Hampton himself bought for it early in the war, and replaced them with captured brass Napoleons.

Part of its intense combativeness was due to a change which attached it to the ever-active cavalry. When the Hampton Legion of infantry, artillery, and cavalry was split into separate units in the summer of 1862, Battery A became an independent command, attached to Hampton’s new cavalry brigade as Hart’s Battery of horse artillery. Each fieldpiece was drawn by six horses instead of four, and every cannoneer rode his own wiry mount for added speed. After James F. Hart was wounded and promoted major, E. L. Halsey took command and the battery bore his name at the close of the war.

At some point at least halfway through the conflict, Pvt. Marx E. Cohen, Jr. reported as a replacement. More is known of Cohen than of Chew, whom he later duelled. Cohen’s grandfather immigrated from Poznan, Poland, via London to Charleston. He prospered in the Carolina Low Country and left considerable land to his son, father of Marx, Jr. Young Marx apparently studied to become a physician and took a medical degree before entering the service, as he is referred to repeatedly as “Doctor.”

At the age of 23, he enlisted at Charleston on March 1, 1862, and became a member of the 5th South Carolina Cavalry, a regiment which saw much service in the beleaguered Carolina coastal area but fought few notable battles. At some point about 1864, young Cohen apparently heeded the impulse of many other impatient, youthful soldiers to get into the "big war" in Virginia. He became one of the stream of transfers from regiments stationed in the middle South to the vaunted Army of Northern Virginia.

As Hart's or Halsey's Battery at one time contained some five or six Cohens and a number of other members of Charleston's noted old Jewish community, it seems only logical that Marx Cohen should have joined it and should have been well received. Illness, however, soon harassed him. His service record with the battery shows that he was hospitalized for rheumatism late in August, 1864, at the Jackson Hospital at Richmond. On August 28, he received a 30-day furlough to go home to the family plantation near Danner's Crossing, S. C., to recuperate. Rejoining the battery about September 30, he was again hospitalized on October 29 at Jackson Hospital because of a condition affecting his left side and leg. His record discloses nothing more, but his physical condition, like that of so many of his comrades, obviously was not good. Early in 1865, there came an episode which illustrates the independent and often ultra-democratic spirit of Southern troops, as well as their devotion to their cause. "embers of the battery learned that Hampton's cavalry was being shifted from Virginia to North Carolina to support Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's forlorn-hope attempt to check Sherman's swing up through the Carolinas. A committee of five noncoms and privates was promptly appointed by the men to petition Hampton, through channels, to take "his" horse artillery battery with him. Hampton agreed, and the necessary orders were issued through General Lee's adjutant.

An original copy of these orders, received and endorsed by E. I. Halsey and now in the writer's possession, indicates the disruption of communications in the upper Confederacy. The order directed that guns and caissons be shipped by railroad from the vicinity of Bellfield, Va., to Smithfield, N. C., but stated that men and horses would have to travel cross-country, presumably to ease the burden on the overloaded railroads. Halsey, as battery commander, drew 60 pounds of boot leather for the men about then, and the unit spruced up for what were to be its last battles. An amusing sidelight on this sartorial splendor—so contrary to the general concept of "ragged Confederates" in 1865—is given by Guidon Bearer Sherfesee in his unpublished Reminiscences of a Color-Bearer. While awaiting railroad delivery of their fieldpieces at Smithfield, he wrote, "the boys were lounging around—some with white collars, others with well-greased boots, and nearly all in nice artillery jackets—when one of General Wheeler's cavalry regiments passed and the cavalymen began saying: 'Come up out of those collars!' and 'You needn't hide—we see you in those boots,' and some of them kindly offered to snap a cap on their rifles (to show greenhorns how it was done) if we would give them five cents, and so on. Our boys did not reply. We knew they took us for some militia company, and thought it best to say nothing."

But within a few days, Sherfesee recorded, the relatively well-dressed battery fought two engagements in which the

jeering cavalry regiment also participated. "When the head of their column next met the battery on the road and they recognized us," he reported, "they took off their hats and said, 'Boys, we take back all we said the other day. You will do to tie to.' "

Not all of the twitting and jesting ended as happily. Sherfesee, a better fighter than writer, tells nothing of the cause of the duel between Chew and Cohen nor which one challenged the other. He wrote, however, that it started over "some words."

Said he:

"On the evening of March 18, 1865, two of our comrades, Dr. Marx E. Cohen and Thomas R. Chew, had some words which ended in a challenge for a duel the next morning. William J. Verdier was selected by Cohen as his second, and Leonidas Raysor by Chew.

"The next morning at break of day, the camp was astir. About sunrise, we went off some little distance where the necessary arrangements were made. The principals took their positions, and at the word, emptied their revolvers at each other, but neither was hurt." The duellists strode from the field of honor visibly shaken by their inaccuracy. The distance, although not mentioned by Sherfesee, most likely was 60 feet. It was set forth as the maximum standard range only seven years earlier by a former Governor of South Carolina, John Lyde Wilson, in his celebrated "Code of Honor, or Rules for the Government of Principals and Seconds in Duelling." Wilson said "the usual distance is from ten to twenty paces, as may be agreed on; and the seconds, in measuring the ground, usually step three feet."

The seconds, be it noted, both prescribed the conditions of the duel and set up the physical arrangements. Among other things, each was supposed to load the weapon used by his principal. In this instance, the number of shots fired was almost surely between 10 and 12. Nearly all Civil War revolvers were chambered for five or six rounds, and Sherfesee clearly stated that the duel weapons were "emptied" in the bloodless encounter.

The exceedingly curious fact that both battle-hardened veterans missed completely at close range was too much for Cohen. On the walk back to camp, Sherfesee said, he remarked to his second, Verdier, "It was queer that neither of us was hurt. I can't understand it." With sudden realization, Cohen then demanded point-blank to know whether the seconds had loaded the revolvers properly. Verdier merely smiled. He refused to admit anything. Cohen in a cold fury said, "I understand now. I shall hold you to account for this!" As Sherfesee explained it, the seconds had agreed during the night to load both revolvers only with blanks. Having seen so much blood shed, they could not stomach more of it between soldiers on the same side.

Before the duelling party got back to camp, "Boots and Saddles" sounded on the bugles. The group ran the rest of the way, and saddled up without breakfast. The engagement into which they rode, on March 19, 1865, proved to be the Battle of Bentonville.

If Captain Halsey had noticed the brief absence of the duellists or suspected the reason, he had no time now for investigation or disciplinary measures. Possibly he never knew, as he never mentioned it. The battery, about 105 men strong, rolled forward ready for action.

Then came a weird and tragic climax to the duel. Johnston, with only about 15,000 Southern soldiers, desperately attacked Sherman, who had 60,000 under his command although not all were present. In forming the gray battle line, Halsey's battery and one other were rushed forward to plug a temporary gap and were ordered to hold their position without firing if possible. As Sherfesee related it:

"A line of battle was formed in the shape of a crescent. Our battery was placed in the center with orders to remain quiet until further instructions. Shortly afterward, the enemy opened on us. We had to lie down behind our guns for several hours under a hot fire without the privilege of replying."

One of the shell bursts soon killed Thomas Chew. Another, shortly afterward, mortally wounded his fellow duellist Marx Cohen. Comrades, crouching under the heavy fire, moved Cohen to the rear and attempted to minister to him, but in vain. Leonidas Raysor, Chew's second, reeled to the ground grasping with one arm the place where his other arm had been. A Federal shell had torn it off. "Now," Sherfesee recorded, "the two principals of the duel were killed and Rasor, one of the seconds, was, as we thought, mortally wounded."

Verdier, the remaining second, was sitting behind a stump—a comfortable backrest, perhaps, but hardly adequate protection from plunging artillery fire. Soon, Sherfesee said, his ears rang with a cry from others in the battery: "Look out, Verd! Your turn next" At that point, Generals Johnston and Hampton rode up, and Captain Halsey requested permission to reply to the enemy's galling fire. Permission was granted. Verdier got up from behind his stump, the battery roared into action, and he survived intact—the only one of the four involved in the duel to live through the engagement unharmed. Raysor, despite his awful wound, also managed to survive, but both principals lay dead before sundown of the day whose sunrise had seen them shooting at one another.

MARX COHEN, Sr., soon wrote to Captain Halsey to learn details of his son's fate. Not until that fall, however, did he learn of it from others in the battery. Apparently he gained some cold consolation from the fact that his son died in battle rather than in a private duel. A marble shaft to Marx E. Cohen, Jr., bearing military motifs and a Confederate flag in stone, rises today in Charleston in the old Coming Street Cemetery of Congregation Beth Elohim. It commemorates his military service and brave death, but, naturally, tells nothing of his strange and harmless duel with a comrade on the very morning of their last battle.

Hopes of Federal 'Rocket Battalion' Soared Until Their Balky Weapons Let Them Down

by Dr. Francis A. Lord, November 1962, CWTI

IN November, 1861, a number of New York State volunteers assembled at Fort Porter, in Buffalo. Maj. Thomas W. Lion, a former officer of the English Army, "inventor of the wonderful fire-rocket," appeared in camp and explained to the men that he wanted to form a battalion to use "his" rocket in the field. He was successful, and a rocket battalion was organized, consisting of two companies of 80 men

each, under the command of Major Lion. The battalion was armed with the Congreve rocket which, according to Major Lion, was a very effective weapon. In a speech at Albany, the major told his men that these rockets had been used with great effect in the Mexican War, "one going a mile out of its way to kill a Mexican."

As one of the soldiers sarcastically said, "I have no doubt it struck a mile from the object it was aimed at." Claims were made that, with a little practice, a flagstaff could be hit five miles away. But the rockets were "balky," like a mule. They would go any way but the right way. The first night, after target practice with these rockets, rocket stock was low in camp. The press made much of the "rocket gun" as being a terrifying weapon, whose principal purpose was to throw a flame of fire sufficiently large to frighten horses and thus throw the enemy's cavalry into confusion. Writers described the rocket gun as being a breech-loading fieldpiece, capable of discharging bombs, and bulk and percussion shot as well as rockets. The rockets were to be used for setting on fire buildings behind which enemy troops might be lurking. As one newspaper said, "The expansive properties of the rocket are wonderful, creating a ball of fire 15 feet in diameter, which can be thrown 5,300 yards," or over three miles.

On Jan. 24, 1862, a member of the rocket battalion, with a customary lack of security consciousness, described the rocket to his local paper as follows: "The rockets vary from 12 to 20 inches in length and from 2 to 3 inches in diameter. The head is conical and solid iron, from 2-3 inches in length, according to the size of the rocket. The remaining portion of the rocket is a hollow iron tube, filled with a highly inflammable compound, which is ignited in the rear of the rocket by a fuse and which gives the weapon its impetus.



The composition of this inflammable substance is a Government secret." The tubes were of two types, one of drawn iron with a bore of three inches, and the other was made by combining three 10-inch rods on wires, spirally, fastened by strong bands, leaving a bore of four-to-five

inches. Both types utilized a stand. Although the rockets were old and not perfectly made, the men did achieve good results with them. The wire tubes, however, proved to be the better type. Some three-inch rockets fired from the wire tubes performed magnificently. At an elevation of about 45 degrees the "fire spitter" went "direct as a bullet" for a distance of more than three miles. Two main types of projectiles were used: solid shot; and a type of spherical case filled with musket balls and powder and exploded by a time fuse.

Organization of the rocket battalion was the same as light artillery, including gun carriages, limbers, and caissons. But instead of mounting one gun on a carriage, there were four rocket tubes per carriage. Each company was to have four

carriages, complete with their tubes. When drawn up in battery before an enemy infantry or cavalry regiment, each rocket company "could send into its midst 16 rockets, each rocket spitting fire, fury, and destruction on every side, and carrying in its projectile 74 bullets, ready to burst from their shell at just the desired point, and scatter death in every direction." The rocket guns, after a production delay of nearly four months, were turned over by the inventor and con» tractors to the battalion. However, in May, 1862, a member of the battalion wrote that tests with the rockets had been unsuccessful and that the "quaint" rocket carriages had been ex-changed for the substantial six-pounder carriage, and the sheet-iron tubes were exchanged for rifled cannon. These cannon were three-inch rifled pieces. Major Lion was soon dismissed from the service for incompetence and his men eventually formed the nucleus of the 24th New York Battery. So far as most of the men were concerned, the rocket was a fizzle—yet it was an innovation and deserves more attention than it has usually received in Civil War technical literature. Apparently Major Lion had not hesitated to plead the rocket's cause before the Secretary of War and the Chief of Artillery. Much was made of the fact that the battalion was not a costly unit.

According to the men who used them, the rockets failed primarily because they were erratic as to direction. In fact, a rocket might double back on its course, and, immediately on leaving the mouth of the tube, take a counter direction and come flying into the midst of those who fired it.

According to Major Lion's statement, the rocket used by the battalion was his improvement on the Congreve rocket. But in the minds of those best acquainted with him, there were very real doubts as to whether the major knew anything at all about the science of gunnery or even about the rocket itself. Apparently the members of the battalion had had high expectations and hopes in becoming "the pioneer organization of this wonderful arm of the service." Its failure certainly did not, therefore, result from lack of patriotism or interest of the members of this unique unit.

Jim Heenehan's Final Diorama before he moves to a new home. Antietam. You can see Hood's charge into the cornfield to the right, the Philadelphia Brigade advance to the Dunker Church in the center, and the Irish Brigade attack on the Sunken Road on the left.



**WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>
Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
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April 12th Meeting

Randy Drais



William H. Tipton: The Man Behind the Camera -- How He Influenced the Gettysburg Battlefield

Randy's presentation on William Tipton, a local photographer, who recorded the history of Gettysburg in his photos of the battlefield area and the local civilians helped preserve that great event and its aftermath. Most, if not all, Battle of Gettysburg buffs have heard about Gettysburg photographer William H. Tipton. Tipton studied photography as the apprentice of Charles and Isaac Tyson, who were among the earliest Gettysburg photographers, and he later went into business for himself, taking thousands of photographs of visitors to the Gettysburg battlefield, where he also established Tipton Park and was a major force behind the establishment of the Gettysburg Electric Railway's trolley line on the battlefield.

By 1888, Tipton had produced approximately 5,000 views of the Gettysburg battlefield (the vast majority of the collection was acquired by the Gettysburg National Military Park from C. Tyson Tipton in 1935) and more than 100,000 portraits. Amateur historian Randy Drais as we learn not only about William H. Tipton's many influences on Gettysburg, the battlefield, and the Gettysburg National Military Park, but also his family and their involvement as well, and see many of Tipton's rarely seen battlefield photographs. Randy is a fine gentleman and always welcome at "Old Baldy".

Don't laugh...



because it's true that the United States Army once depended on camels as well as donkeys. The United States Camel Corps was assembled at Camp Veree, Texas in 1861, comprising 83 camels used for pack-trains and scouting in the Southwest deserts. They were brought by Secretary of War Jefferson Davis, later Confederacy leader, who had no time to bother with the experiment after they were taken over by the State of Texas when the Civil War broke out. By the time the war was over, the camels had disgusted Texans and others by scaring mules and other animals. Thus, the United States failed by a close margin to have camels as common as in other countries.

Save the Date... October 20, 2018



Blue
Water
Navy

Brown
Water
Navy



Civil War Navy Symposium

Symposium Speakers



Dr. William Fowler, Jr.

Under Two Flags: The American Navy in the Civil War... Dr. William M. Fowler Jr., *Northeastern University;* Will provide the introduction into the status Navy prior to the Civil War and preparation for conducting Naval Operations. Giving an explanation to the formation of the Blockage Fleet of Southern ports and its overall effectiveness.



Chuck Veit

A Dog Before a Soldier... Chuck Veit, *President Navy & Marine Living History Association,* Presentation on African Americans in the Union Navy. The experience of black sailor in the navy was very different than the treatment their counterparts received in the Army.



Dr. Timothy Smith

Grant Invades Tennessee; The 1862 Battles for Forts Henry and Donelson... Dr. Timothy B Smith, *Furnishing an introduction into the builders and construction of the early ironclads. Presentation on their first major engagement in the joint Naval and Army involvement in the Battle for Fort Henry and Donelson.*



Dr. Gary Joiner

Mr. Lincoln's Brown Water Navy: The Mississippi Squadron... Dr. Gary D. Joiner, *Louisiana State University Shreveport,* A discussion of the significant Naval activities on the Western rivers with presentations on Vicksburg and the Red River Campaign.

Lectures will be supplemented with performances of Maritime and Nautical Music of the Civil War by Charlie Zahm. Also present will be numerous members of the Navy & Marine Living History Association, including Admiral Farragut and Captain Percival Drayton'

Display space has been provided that local Historical Associations to introduce and advance their present to the attendees.



Presented by the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia For information and updates: <http://www.oldbaldycwrt.org>

Symposium to be held on board the Battleship New Jersey in her berth at Camden (Delaware River), New Jersey



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2018 CWRT Congress

August 17–19, 2018

Speakers:
 Dr. John Bamberl, Scottsdale CWRT
 Matt Borowick, Civil War News
 Sue Golden, Kernstown Battlefield Association
 Jay Jorgensen, R. E. Lee CWRT
 Mike Movius, Puget Sound CWRT
 Wally Rueckel, Brunswick CWRT
 Mark Trbovich, Bull Run CWRT

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 17, 2018 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	August 18, 2018 8:00 am - 4:00 pm	August 19, 2018 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Reception at the NCWM includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hors d'oeuvres and Cash bar Presentation by author/historian Chris Mackowski *Behind the Scenes Museum Tour with NCWM CEO Wayne E. Motts included with the weekend package	CWRT Congress program with Breakfast and Lunch. Learn techniques for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member recruitment & retention Effective governing, Preservation Support Proven fundraising Social media marketing 	Battlefield tour - \$20.00 Gettysburg Battlefield Bus Tour with Licensed Battlefield Guide and NCWM CEO Wayne E. Motts. More Information to follow...

Three Terrific Packages: *Meet & Greet 11 of your favorite Civil War Authors*

Congress Only Package: Saturday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm - \$75.00 (Includes breakfast & lunch)
 Congress Plus Package: All day plus add Saturday evening dinner 6-7 pm, cash bar & NCWM Tour - \$100.00
 Weekend Package- Friday reception, Behind the Scenes Museum Tour with NCWM CEO Wayne E. Motts and Saturday breakfast, lunch & dinner - \$125.00

Registration & Lodging information: <http://www.pscwrt.org/activities/CWRT-congress.html>
 Questions - Mike Movius - movius@me.com

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boldly exposes the underbelly of the Civil War that remains to this day one of the greatest and least-covered tragedies in American History. Well over 56,000 abandoned prisoners perished needlessly due to exposure, starvation, and neglect. Politicians and generals on both sides, whose warped strategy favored ideology over humanity come under intense scrutiny in this edgy documentary.

This documentary is written and produced by Joseph F. Wilson. Inspiration for the film came from the writer's Great Great Grandfather, an Andersonville Prison survivor, pictured at left.

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CIVIL WAR PRISONS AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY

(2015) (NR)

**Join us at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday,
May 10th, at
Camden County College,
Blackwood Campus,
Connector Building, Room 101.**

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2018

June 14 – Thursday
John Fitzgerald
 “No Fail Here: Lincoln’s Leadership and The Real Back-Story to the Gettysburg Address”

July 12 – Thursday
Bob Russo
 “Independence – An Ideal, A National Park, and it’s Buildings”

August 9 – Thursday
Chuck Veit
 “How the U.S. Navy Won the American Civil War”
 (Skype presentation)

Questions to
Dave Gilson - 856-547-8130 - ddsghh@comcast.net

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia
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 Room 101 Forum, Civic Hall, Atrium

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