

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

September 9, 2021

The Civil War: April 12, 1861 - August 20, 1866

"Little Round Top: Another Look – Was it really the key to the Battle of Gettysburg?"

Herb Kaufman



Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, September 9, for an online web conference (no physical meeting). Members will receive **ZOOM** dial-in instructions via email. This month's topic is **Herb Kaufman** on **"Little Round Top: Another Look – Was it really the key to the Battle of Gettysburg?"**

In 1974, with the publication of Michael Shaara's "Killer Angels" the focus on the Battle of Gettysburg shifted to three actions which were reinforced with the 1993 movie *Gettysburg*: John Buford's stand on July 1; The battle for Little Round Top on July 2; and Pickett's Charge on July 3.

Subsequently Little Round Top has become the focus of the entire battle, leaving the impression that Chamberlain's defense of the hill saved the Union Army, changed the outcome of the battle and directly lead to the defeat of the Confederate army.

While Chamberlain's Brigade was certainly heroic, was this small hill truly the center point of the battle as so many would have us believe? Was Little Round Top truly the key to this epic 3 day battle? You may be surprised by my answer!

Herb Kaufman has been a teacher, lecturer and living historian of the Civil War for more than 20 years. He is a founding member of the faculty of the Civil War Institute at Manor College and an Adjunct Instructor of Civil War history at Camden County College. He is a well-known speaker on a variety of topics relating to the era of the Civil War having presented programs to civic and community groups, and educational and historical associations throughout the Philadelphia area.



Herb has also been a Civil War reenactor, and was an Educational Associate at the former MOLLUS Civil War Museum & Library in

Philadelphia. He has received numerous awards for his continuing work in education and support of the history of the Civil War. Mr. Kaufman is a member of the Board of Directors and Curator of the GAR Civil War Museum of Philadelphia. He is currently the treasurer of the Delaware Valley Civil War Roundtable, and has been a member of the Old Baldy CWRT for more than 20 years. He is also a member of numerous historical and community organizations. Herb possesses a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Education from Temple University.

Notes from the President...

Welcome to September. We have good news about our upcoming meetings. We are planning to hold an in-person meeting at the College on October 14th. The meeting will also be broadcast on Zoom for those unable to join us in person. We will send out guidance on the health protocols at the College early in October. More information will be available at our September meeting. We also look forward to seeing you at our outdoor events in the next two months.

It was eight years ago this month that we began our experiment of having meetings in Blackwood at the College. The permanent move was made in January 2013. We have come a long way since then, improving the community and our round table. Thank you for continuing to share our message in your community. Invite other interested folks to join us on our journey.

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As many of you have heard the CWRT Congress Conference planned for the 18th at the College has been canceled for this year. Thank you to those who volunteered to assist with the event. Events for the Fall will include the **Soldiers Weekend at Fort Mott** and the **Civil War Weekend at Mullica Hill**. Volunteers are needed to staff our display and disseminate literature. There also may be an opportunity to assist in Glassboro at the end of October. These events provide an occasion to tell our story to more of the public.

Last month **Neil P. Chatelain** told the story of the Naval Operations in the Mississippi River Valley from the Confederate side. This was a good warm up for our Symposium next Spring on the Western Theater. If you were unable to see it on the 12th, review the video of the presentation posted on our website and YouTube page. This month our long-time member and friend **Herb Kaufman** returns to take another look at **“Little Round Top”** and answer the question **“Was it really the key to the Battle of Gettysburg?”** Invite a friend to join us for an informative and entertaining evening.

In this issue of our newsletter, please enjoy another member profile, a book review, a recap of our August meeting and Flat Old Baldy welcoming more new members. When we gather in the Fall, we will be awarding member anniversary pins to those who have earned them in the last year. Watch for the photos of Flat Old Baldy congratulating them in the newsletter and on our Facebook page. Send **Don Wiles** some text of what you have been up to, or have read or viewed, to be included in a future newsletter.

Boscov’s coupons are available for sale, let us know how many you need. They cost \$5 and the buyer gets 25% off their order on October 20th. Later this month the 45th anniversary luncheon planning team will be gathering to move forward on the event on January 15, 2022. Respond to **Dave Gilson’s** message for support to staff our display at the **Soldiers Weekend at Fort Mott** on September 25-26. Another one will be sent for the **Civil War Weekend at Mullica Hill**.

The **Western Symposium** committee will be meeting early this month and report their progress at our gathering on the 12th. Let **Tom Scurria** or **Sean Glisson** know if you want to be part of the success of this event next Spring. Also ask them for some **“Save the Date”** flyers to distribute to those with whom you interact. We will also have an update on our South Jersey Civil War site map project shortly.

Soon we will be gathering at the Lamp Post Diner for our premeeting conversation, discussion and meal. Until then support your local vendors and join us on Zoom to see Herb.

Rich Jankowski, President

Today in Civil War History

1861 Monday, September 9

The North

President Lincoln is advised by a number of military advisers to relieve Frémont in Missouri. The president does not do so for the moment, possibly still having a measure

of belief in the man’s international reputation, but it is becoming clear that the great explorer is an ineffectual commander. The president directs General David Hunter to go to Frémont’s assistance.

1862 Tuesday, September 9

Eastern Theater

Lee’s proclamation promises Marylanders a free choice: the Confederate Army would not compel them to join the cause. They take him at his word. Hardly a man joins and there is no rush to help provision the hungry rebel troops. The long summer’s campaigning has reduced Lee’s soldiers to rags: to a wavering Marylander they looked more like a beaten rabble than victorious veterans. Lee resolves to press north into Pennsylvania, issuing Special Order 191 ordering his forces to march by divergent routes to concentrate again at Hagerstown, Maryland, where he will draw on his supply base at Winchester in the Shenandoah Valley.

1863 Wednesday, September 9

Eastern Theater

Recognizing the importance of Chattanooga, President Davis authorizes James Longstreet to take 12,000 troops from the Army of Northern Virginia and travel by train to join Bragg’s forces.

Western Theater

Believing he is again pursuing a beaten enemy, Rosecrans advances on a 40-mile front. The three Union corps are now separated by several days’ marching. But Bragg is not fleeing; he is concentrating his forces to attack and defeat Rosecrans in detail.

1864 Friday, September 9

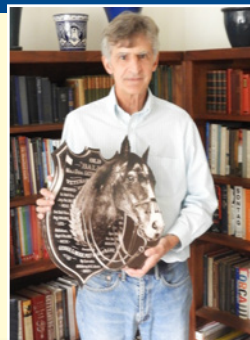
Western Theater

Action is reported at Warrensburg, Missouri, and the Federal steamer J.D. Penz is attacked at Clarendon, Arkansas.

Bob Sparks
Newtown, PA
Amy and Dan Hummel
Lumberton, NJ



Welcome to the new recruits

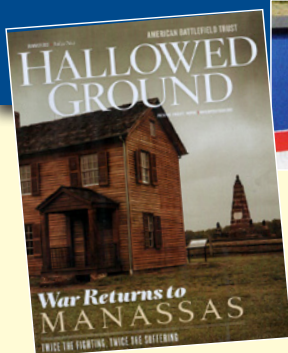


Bob Sparks



Amy and Dan Hummel

“Keeping History from getting lost in translation”



MORE THAN 30 years ago, the Chantilly Battlefield in Fairfax County, Virginia, inspired the beginning of the modern battlefield preservation movement, and this May it witnessed another first — installation of a multilingual interpretive sign from Civil War Trails. Ox Hill Battlefield Park, operated by the county, includes a trail with several interpretive stops, and the Trust partnered with Bull Run Civil War Round Table to create a virtual Tour Guide app last year. But the local community includes significant Korean- and Spanish-speaking populations. According to the county, 30 percent of its residents are immigrants, and 29 percent speak a language

other than English at home. The lack of multilingual interpretation presents a barrier to them learning about the history that unfolded in their own backyard.

Rather than simply translate an existing sign, Civil War Trails chose to offer text that directly relates to the immigrant experience these local residents share with many of the soldiers who fought at Chantilly.

Each of the more than 1,300 signs in the Civil War Trails network is sponsored by an organization or partner entity, and the new Chantilly sign was made possible by the **Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia**.

THE TRUST is committed to bringing high-quality history content to all Americans — and those all around the world who want to understand these important conflicts — and has now translated 15 of our most popular online articles into Spanish. We believe this is an important way to ensure that the widest array of students are exposed to accurate and unbiased interpretations of the past. While it's still early, we've already accumulated more than 1,000 visits to these newly translated articles, creating a positive outlook for the utility of this content.

*Published in "Hallowed Ground"
American Battlefield Trust*

Member Profile - Lynn Cavill



Lynn Cavill

Lynn Cavill grew up in Upper Darby, attending Upper Darby High School.

Graduation ceremonies were held in the Tower Theater (some Old Baldy members might remember the Tower Theater from their old concert days). After graduation, Lynn went to Drexel University to study math, but left half way through to get

married. She has two daughters, Alice and Sandy, and four grandchildren, two of whom are now in the U.S. Air Force.

After a bit, Lynn got a job as a clerk with the U.S. Post Office. “While one piece of mail does not weigh a lot, handling 100,000 pieces of mail a day is a lot of work on your body.” This inspired Lynn to return to school and get a degree from the Community College in Philadelphia in Electronic Engineering Technology. This, in turn, helped her become an electronic technician for the Post Office, where she helped maintain the computer-operated mail processing equipment. She was the only woman doing this work at her facility and was fortunate to have good bosses during her career with the Postal Service.

One perk of her new job was that she travelled periodically to Norman, Oklahoma for training. Asked what are some of the positives about visiting Oklahoma, Lynn chuckled, “It’s not New Jersey.” But more seriously, Lynn was impressed

with Oklahoma’s big sky. “You can see for miles,” she noted, though being in the plains also gets very windy. It also gave her an opportunity to see her maternal aunt and cousins, who live in eastern Oklahoma.

Travel is something Lynn really enjoys – especially her six Rick Steves’ tours. Some favorites include Paris & South France; Brussels & Amsterdam and several visits to Germany. But the trip that stands out is her journey to Normandy in 2011 with her 15-year-old grandson (now in the Air Force). She fondly recalls his hopping into trenches and pill boxes, their visit to the American Cemetery, Omaha Beach, Pointe du Hoc, Sainte Mere Eglise, and other sites. At dinner one night, her grandson ordered the special, which he happily discovered came with a glass of wine (age limits on wine and beer are more lenient in Europe).

Lynn’s hobbies include quilting, which she’s been able to focus on since her retirement a few years ago (she likes using 1850-1900 reproduction design fabrics in her quilts), and genealogy. This latter interest has led her to a couple of ancestors who fought in the Civil War. On her father’s side, she discovered her great-grandmother’s brother, Private Arnold M. Nichols, who grew up in Chester County, PA. He joined the 9-month 124th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, which mustered into service in August of 1862. With less than a month of training, the 124th was sent to Antietam, where it fought near the East Woods, trading volleys with Confederate infantry in the Cornfield and supporting nearby Union artillery. They suffered 50 casualties that day. The 124th also fought at Chancellorsville before being mustered out later that month. Lynn spent many days at the Federal Building in

Continued on page 4

Philadelphia, looking through rolls of microfilm to find out more about her ancestor. She discovered his 1903 petition asking the government to increase his \$12/month pension. Lynn does not know if his petition was ever granted.

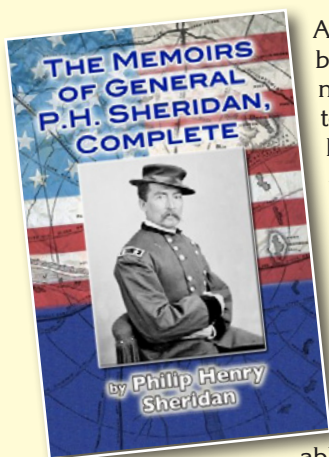
And on her mother's side, she learned of her great-great-grandfather, Private George W. Goff, who fought for the South with the 8th Arkansas infantry at Shiloh before transferring to a local cavalry unit (Price's), where he served the remainder of the war.

Lynn's favorite Civil War site is Gettysburg where, in addition to the battlefield, she enjoys waking around the town. She noted that her visit to Gettysburg contrasted with her first visit to Antietam, which is more secluded. At Antietam, she forgot to take water with her and realized too late that there was nowhere nearby to get something to drink. Lynn has always been interested in history, and when a friend mentioned the Old Baldy Civil War Round table to her eight and a half years ago, she joined up. And we're glad she did.

Book Review

"Civil War Memoirs by General Philip Sheridan Bantam, 1991 (originally published 1888) or "100 Uses of Cavalry Troops"

By Lynn Cavill, Member OBCWRT



A few months ago I won this book in a drawing after a Zoom meeting. "Sheridan" appealed to me the most from the selection offered. President Rich Jankowski even hand delivered the volume to me as he was visiting someone nearby at that time. Wow, just what I needed—another book to read.

At length I began reading, expecting some heavy going with the hope that I would be able to get to the finish. The

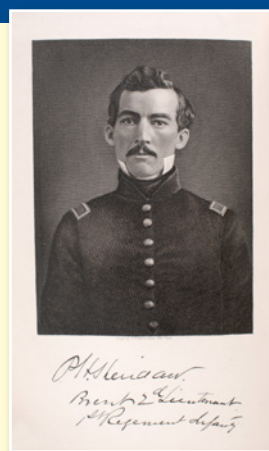
introduction alone was a 20 page synopsis of Sheridan's life, of which I had known little, but was satisfied to learn.

Chapter One found Sheridan at Fort Yamhill in Oregon at the time of the firing on Fort Sumter. He was ordered east—was delayed, left there on September 1st, rode 2 days to Portland, took a boat to San Francisco, a steamer to New York via Isthmus of Panama(!), arrived in NYC in November '61, traveled to Ohio, then went on to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. Whew! No wonder he was afraid the war might be over before he got there!!

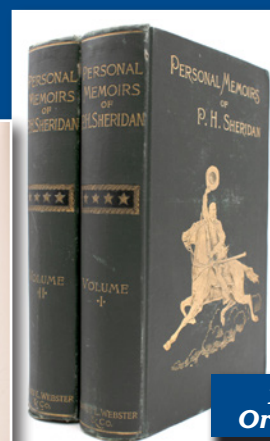
Sheridan was a Quartermaster until May 1862 when he requested "to move to the active service", and was appointed Colonel of the 2nd Michigan Cavalry. At this point his career in the war took off and so did the book.

Sheridan served in Tennessee and Kentucky until March '64 when he was transferred by General Grant to the Army of the Potomac to command the Cavalry Corps. Lots of action in Virginia follows including the defeat and death of Jeb Stuart at Yellow Tavern, the clearing of Jubal Early out of the Shenandoah Valley and eventually helping force General Lee to surrender at Appomattox Court House.

Sheridan is always concerned about the condition of his men and horses. Much detail about supplies is



"Rienzi"
Sheridan's War Horse



1888
Originals



included—the lack thereof, issuing, procuring, foraging for—so important to both men and horses. There are several very helpful map diagrams that help clarify the movements in each campaign. Sheridan explains his orders, his opening plans, his tactics and as the battle develops and the results at the conclusion of each battle. Of course he toots his own horn a bit, but it's his book.

There are a myriad of uses of Cavalry in battle: rapid deployment, fighting mounted with sabres or pistols, fighting dismounted with carbines, advancing quickly, holding a line, cutting straight through an enemy line (by surprise), flanking quickly, making use of good visibility and flexibility. Other uses are scouting, testing the enemy pickets or defenses, carrying messages, guarding wagon trains, foraging, driving off mules, horses & cattle, burning crops & mills, and, well, you get the idea.

After reading this book I now understand much more about the attention to detail that is needed to field and supply an army and make the great battles possible. And my eyes were opened to how much more goes on during a war than the big battles that make the headlines. The Civil War was fought in more places than just the Eastern Theater. What a great book!

“Those White Roses”

Nurses were not part of the Armies, There was no Nursing Corps. These were women who went off to contribute their efforts to helping the wounded, dying and ill. They helped in Hospitals, Battlefields and Camps. There are very few records and photographs of these brave women so the accounts are few.

Each Month we would like you to meet some of these heroic women.

Mary Ann Keen

A Union private passed around the portrait of a young woman with more than a little pride. “In showing it to my comrades it has been my boast that it was the picture of my sister who has been a soldier as long as I have,” he wrote during the war.

The private, farmhand Thomas E. Keen of the First Nebraska Infantry, initially had no plans to join the army. But the combination of a lack-luster crop and a call to arms from the territory’s governor prompted his enlistment on July 3, 1861.

A few weeks later and 900 miles east in his native state of Pennsylvania, Thomas’s older sister Mary Ann, 25, joined the army of nurses. She had been living in Pittsburgh with her parents, Lewis and Susannah, when the war began. Though her exact motivation for enlisting is not known, evidence suggests that neither she nor her brother was aware of the other’s decision to serve.

On July 23, 1861, Mary Ann reported for duty at Seminary Hospital in Georgetown in the District of Columbia. She remained on duty there for the next two and-a-half years, tending to patients wounded during the fighting of many of the major battles fought in the East. During this time, she kept up a lively correspondence with her brother. Some of his letters to Mary Ann have survived, and they reveal her concerns for his welfare as he and his comrades garrisoned various outposts in southern Missouri and eastern Arkansas.

In August 1862, Thomas wrote from camp near Helena, Arkansas, “I heartily reiterate your wish of being close enough to you so as you could send me a box of ‘goodies,’ but if you have them to spare give them to some other soldier and believe me there is nothing encourages a soldier more than such small attentions. It makes him feel that he is remembered at home.”

In this same letter, Thomas compared Mary Ann’s assessment of care during the Peninsula Campaign to his



Mary Ann Keen

own experience at the recent Battle of Shiloh: “I am much pleased with your description of the kind treatment of the poor wounded in the battles before Richmond. What a difference between that and the treatment of the wounded of Shiloh. There many of our wounded laid for days in tents and on the river bank for days without hardly anything to eat or drink, their wounds undressed and uncared for. The Sanitary committees of Ills. and Ohio found them in a horrible condition, both friend and foe. They soon had things fixed a little different. Really, if it was not for those kind and good sanitary committees, the sick soldiers of the west would fare badly.”

Thomas left the army in August 1864 when the regiment concluded of its three-year term. Mary Ann continued on at Seminary Hospital until November 1864, when she transferred to Chesapeake General Hospital in Old Point Comfort, Virginia, part of the sprawling complex of care facilities in the vicinity of Fortress Monroe. She remained until July 1865, when she was discharged after almost four years of service.

Mary Ann made Washington her home after the war and clerked for a time in the Treasury Department. In 1870 she married fellow clerk Milton Woodworth. A few years later, they became parents to George, their only child.

Mary Ann maintained a low profile in the nation’s capital. Records indicate she did not participate with her sister nurses in reunions or related activities. This may be explained by nervous exhaustion, with which she claimed to have suffered after the war. Despite the condition, she lived until age 86, dying in 1922. Her husband and son survived her. Brother Thomas, her reliable correspondent during the war, died in 1908.

Library of Congress By, Ronald S. Coddington, Historian and Editor of the magazine, Military Images.

Katharine Prescott Wormeley

Before the bloody battles of the Civil War raged on, the United States had few organized nursing groups working alongside their military. Wartime aid was primarily left as a duty for male nurses and fellow soldiers, and the lack of existing hospitals meant that pre-war healthcare was often confined to the home. Regardless of who handled wounded soldiers, nursing was not yet a professionally trained or governmentally supported position.

But when thousands of soldiers enlisted and were severely injured from battle, the necessity for medical aid created ripe grounds for the formation of official nursing organizations and hospitals. Inspired by Florence Nightingale’s medical work at the Crimean War, Americans began to follow suit. Recognizing the need for orderly healthcare, President Abraham Lincoln ordered Secretary of War Simon Cameron to commission Dorothea Dix as nursing superintendent of the Union Army. At the same time, everyday citizens – particularly women – banded together in 1861 to found the United States Sanitary Commission, designed to organize medical aid and provide care for Union soldiers.

The United States Sanitary Commission (USSC) soon became one of the most prominent civilian-run nursing

organizations in the Civil War; it made important moves to include women in the war cause, and provided nurses and numerous transports throughout the country. At the forefront of these growing nursing organizations was upper-class white women like Katharine Prescott Wormeley, an English-born New Englander who was known for her medical services and writing skills.

Katharine Prescott Wormeley was born on January 14, 1830, to a highly affluent British-American family living in England. She was the third of four children of Admiral Ralph Randolph Wormeley, a British naval officer and sixth-generation Virginian, and Caroline Preble, a wealthy American from Boston. When Admiral Wormeley passed away prematurely in 1852, the surviving Wormeley family settled in Newport, Rhode Island.

Almost immediately after the Civil War broke out in 1861, Katharine and her mother began dedicating their efforts to the Union Army. She became supervisor to the Ladies' Union Aid Society and started grassroots women's aid organizations from the confines of her mother's Newport home. By the winter of 1861, she was running a government-contracted clothing supply organization designed to help the war on both fronts: at home and on the battlefields. She employed the wives and families of enlisted soldiers – many of them from less privileged backgrounds – who would then sew and assemble tens of thousands of flannel shirts for the soldiers.

Katharine's early efforts leading the Union Aid Society foreshadowed the type of work she would engage in later on in the War. After successfully running the uniform-making business for just under one year, Katharine departed



Katharine Prescott Wormeley

from Newport to join the United States Sanitary Commission Hospital Transport Services traveling throughout the country. She joined the first transport ship to be commissioned by the USSC, the *Daniel Webster*, and she remained with the transport service throughout the majority of the Peninsular Campaign.

Working on the *Daniel Webster* was no easy feat – not even for the tenacious and experienced Katharine. Transport ships could house hundreds of soldiers at a time, yet many of them were ill-equipped with medical supplies and unable to provide necessary provisions for the wounded men on board. Throughout her service, Katharine wrote frequently of the challenges transport nurses faced in trying to provide adequate care in unfit situations. After a particularly difficult transport, she wrote, "You can't conceive what it is to stem the torrent of this disorder and utter want of organization." And even as the injuries from battle grew numerous and more gruesome, Katharine and the Sanitary Commission steadfastly continued their work: "Of course the Commission throws itself in and does all," she wrote. These recollections are included in Katharine's 1889

book, *The Other Side of War*, which includes letters and memories from working on hospital transports. She left the hospital transport service in August 1862 – just 3 months after joining – for a brief period of reprieve at home.

Katharine's break was short-lived, however, and she soon found herself tangled in nursing service once more. Surgeon General William A. Hammond called upon her to accept the position of nursing superintendent at Lovell General Hospital, located at Portsmouth Grove in her home state of Rhode Island. She began her commission in September of 1862, bringing with her a small army of her own: nurses – all women – who were to head individual sections of the 1700-bed hospital and hold a supervising responsibility once reserved for men alone. Of these nurses included the Woolsey sisters, Georgeanna, Sarah, and Jane, who became close confidants to Katharine while at Portsmouth Grove.

What Katharine did at Portsmouth Grove is nothing short of extraordinary. Upon her arrival in 1862, the hospital had no formal infrastructure, no organized group of female volunteer nurses, and uninsulated sheds rather unfit for proper medical care. With these issues at the forefront of her mind, Katharine moved quickly and efficiently. She wasted no time in setting up a clear, around-the-clock nursing system comprised of assistant superintendents (women like Georgeanna and Jane Woolsey), surgeons, and volunteer and commissioned nurses. She appealed – but ultimately failed – to secure tarpaper to cover the hospital's holed walls. Letters were frequently sent out to neighboring towns, requesting food provisions and funds for the wounded soldiers. Whatever challenge the hospital faced, Katharine and her group of nurses were there.

Katharine's time at Portsmouth Grove was as short-lived as her tenure at the hospital transports. Though her peers described her as "clever, spirited and energetic in the highest degree," she was only physically able to be Lovell's Superintendent for one year. Family obligations and health issues took a toll on Katharine, and she resigned from her position in September 1863. Though her service was short, her effect on the hospital was not unknown to the soldiers within, nor to the nurses who served after her.

Once she returned to Newport, Rhode Island, Katharine settled into a life of public service and writing. The war had not yet ended, and Katharine continued to dedicate funds and resources to the Union Army until the battles died down in 1865. In this period, she collected over \$17,000, food, and other supplies to donate to the Sanitary Commission's hospitals and transports. She soon began her tenure as Rhode Island's associate manager for the New England Women's Auxiliary Association in 1864, working on behalf of the state's veterans. The Newport Aid Society was also operated under her supervision, and she later founded the Newport Charity Organization Society in 1879. By 1887, Katharine turned to education and founded an all-girls industrial school designed to educate working-class girls.

In addition to her reputation as a civil servant, Katharine was known for her writing and French translating skills. She wrote a book on the history and operation of the U.S. Sanitary Commission – supposedly starting and finishing the project in just 11 days – and its sales went directly to fund the Commission. Her personal writings were later accompanied by popular translations of Balzac and other French authors, some of which were published and intro-

duced by known authors of her time. Her list of translations extends to over 40 different works, and she even wrote a memoir to accompany the dozens of Balzac translations she achieved in her lifetime. Katharine spent the final 15 years of her life in New Hampshire, where she died in August 1908.

Understanding the magnitude of Katharine's service requires a knowledge of the social background that shaped her entire life. Having been born into a family of considerable wealth and social standing, Katharine was used to living among the upper crust of New England society. She and her siblings were raised in gentility, yet from an early age, their father instilled in them a sympathy for the less fortunate. Katharine took these lessons to heart; seeing it as a moral obligation to help lower-class women, Katharine founded multiple organizations and a school for these communities. Yet, the Wormeley's upper-class rearing never left her and had a clear impact on the way she viewed the nursing profession. Throughout the War, her praise was reserved for the similarly upper-class women that accompanied her on hospital transports. These elite women were described by Katharine as "efficient, wise, active as cats, merry light-hearted, thoroughbred, and without the fearful tone of self-devotion which sad experience makes one expect in benevolent women." Those who Katharine chose as Assistant Superintendent at Lovell Hospital were women

of a certain social background – like the Woolsey sisters, who were daughters to a rich industrialist father – and ostensibly those who Katharine could relate to herself. A well-reared woman who could devote her services and not expect pay was seen as the ideal for many elite nurses like Katharine, who viewed their charitable volunteer work as morally superior.

Katharine's elite background thus places her contributions to the War in an important light – one which acknowledges the sheer magnitude of the service projects she engaged in, but one which also recognizes the financial backing that made much of it possible. Historians note that Katharine was wealthy by her family alone, and that she never married later in her life; these factors certainly helped make her service possible, and finances were never a restriction on her ability to give. Her popularity in the history of Civil War nurses is likely attributable to her accessibility to the media; she was a charitable, white, literate upper-class woman who worked for free, where other nurses worked for pay, faced significant financial hardships, and could not afford to write memoirs of their wartime experiences. Katharine thus falls into the not-uncommon category of Civil War nurses who completed an outstanding degree of work that was directly parallel to the larger degree of wealth they were afforded throughout their lives.

*Library of Congress, By Elizabeth Lindqwister,
2019 Liljenquist Fellow, Prints & Photographs Division.*

An "Orange Blossom" Falls at Gettysburg



Nancy and George Hoover looked on as rebels traipsed through the couple's modest Pennsylvania farm during the days immediately following the Battle of Gettysburg. The disappointed, yet still defiant Confederates camped in the fields around the Hoover homestead near Waynesboro, about 20 miles west of the battlefield.

On Monday, July 6, 1863, a band of officers entered the Hoover house and made themselves comfortable. Mrs. Hoover later told a local historian that they "were seated at Mr. Hoover's table partaking of his hospitality, and discussing the great battle and pointing out the causes of their defeat and mistakes they made."

At one point during the impromptu debate, Lt. Ransom W. Wood of the Twentieth Georgia Infantry reached into his coat and pulled out a Bible. He had picked the Testament from the pocket of a dead Yankee captain on the battlefield.

About this time on another small farm about 250 miles away in New York, John Nicoll learned that his eldest son, a Union army captain, had been killed at Gettysburg.

Captain Isaac Nicoll was a quintessential patriot. Born in New York City and raised 60 miles north in the Orange County village of Blooming Grove, he recruited a company of volunteers in the summer of 1862. The rank and file elected officers, a common practice among volunteers, and voted Nicoll their captain and commander. They became Company G of a new regiment, the 124th New York.

The regiment left for the South in September 1862.

"On the eve of Captain Nicoll's departure with his regiment," his father noted, "The ladies of this town presented him with a handsome sword. It was not a formal presentation, simply accompanied with a letter."

The New Yorkers were attached to the Army of the Potomac. They had their baptism under fire during the disastrous attacks at Fredericksburg in December 1862.

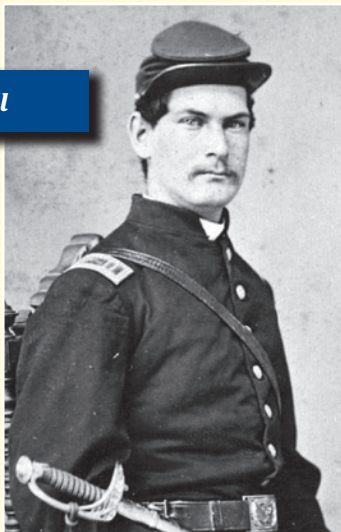
At the Battle of Chancellorsville on May 2, 1863, the 124th suffered heavy casualties in the crushing Union defeat. Nicoll's company was hit hard: A third of his men, 22 of 60, were listed as casualties. Nicoll happened to be away on a ten-day furlough, and his first lieutenant led the company into action.

At Chancellorsville, the regiment received the sobriquet 'Orange Blossoms' from its colorful colonel, Augustus Van Horne Ellis, a former steamboat captain who had wandered off to California during the heady days of the Gold Rush. Charles H. Weygant, who served as one of Ellis' captains at this time, told the story when he wrote the regiment's history years later. He recollected that the New Yorkers were in the thick of the battle when they encountered an officer from the staff of Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, the commander of the corps to which the 124th belonged. The staff officer attempt-

ed to rally the remnants of two or three broken

Captain Isaac Nicoll

regiments. "Seeing the 124th, this officer called on it, in the name of General Sickles, to retake the woods from which one of our batteries, having fired its last round of ammunition, had just been driven. Ellis, with no other reply than 'Hi, Hi, my Orange Blossoms,' gave the order." The men promptly obeyed and took the position until overwhelmed by the enemy and forced to withdraw.



Two months later at Gettysburg, Gen. Sickles advanced the 124th and the rest of his Third Corps a half-mile ahead of their assigned position, and created a deadly gap between his forces and the main Union line.

Alert Confederates promptly moved to exploit Sickles' error.

Meanwhile, Nicoll and his comrades occupied Houck's Ridge, a rise of rock-strewn ground anchored on its southern end by a prominent outcropping of boulders known as Devil's Den. "We had not yet learned by bitter experience the inestimable value of breastworks, and instead of spending our leisure time in rolling together the loose stones and throwing over them such a quantity of earth as would have formed a bullet proof line, we lounged about on the grass and rocks, quietly awaiting the coming shock, which many declared themselves ready and anxious to receive. But there were undoubtedly those among us who ardently wished and perhaps secretly prayed that when the battle opened, it might rage the most furiously along some other part of the line," noted Weygant.

Nicoll's mindset at this moment is unknown. But a couple weeks earlier, on June 21, he penned a foreboding request on the fly leaf of a Bible that he carried in his pocket: "In case I am killed and my body left on the field, the finder of this Testament will please send it to my father, John Nicoll, Blooming Grove, Orange county, N. York, and confer a great favor on me."

About 3 p.m., the roar of enemy artillery presaged an attack. Nicoll and his fellow officers steadied the men and braced for battle as long lines of gray infantry appeared on the near horizon. These men were Texans and Arkansans, and they belonged to Gen. James Longstreet's corps.

Weygant reported, "As we held the position by a single line of battle unsupported, the enemy's superiority in numbers, as seen at a glance, seemed overwhelming. As they approached they deployed in four distinct lines of battle, and came resolutely on under a rapid fire from our batteries. All seemed lost but in the steady lines of the Third corps not a man flinched."

He continued, "When the enemy's advance line drew near the base of the hill we were on, it appeared to almost halt for a minute, and then started rapidly forward again, and with fierce yells began ascending the slope; and there was heard an opening crash of riflery all along our front, which was the death knell of hundreds; yet on, on they came, but very slowly, only a few feet at a time."

The New Yorkers fought them to a standstill. Only twenty yards or so separated friend from foe. At this critical moment, the major of the 124th, James Cromwell, saw an opportunity to break the Confederate line. He asked Col. Ellis to order a countercharge.

"Presently Ellis by a simple nod gives the desired permission; at which Cromwell waves his sword twice above his head, makes a lunge forward, shouts the charge, and putting spurs to his horse, dashes forward through the lines. The men cease firing for a minute and with ready bayonets rush after him. Ellis sits still in his saddle and looks on as if in proud admiration of both his loved Major and gallant sons of Orange, until the regiment is fairly under way, and then rushes with them into the thickest of the fray," recounted Weygant.

Capt. Nicoll was with them, and led his company into the inferno. "The conflict at this point defies description. Roaring cannon, crashing riflery, screeching shots, bursting shells, hissing bullets, cheers, shouts, shrieks and groans were the notes of the song of death which greeted the grim reaper, as with mighty sweeps he leveled down the richest field of scarlet human grain ever garnered on this continent," observed Weygant.

The charge broke the Confederate line. But success was fleeting. As quick as a flash the second gray line advanced. A solid line of Georgians, including Lt. Wood's regiment, "poured into us a terrible fire which seemed in an instant to bring down a full quarter of our number," declared Weygant. In the center of this maelstrom Cromwell received a fatal wound when a bullet struck him in the chest. Historian Weygant noted that Col. Ellis responded, "My God! My God, men! Your Major's down; Save him! Save him." Soon after a bullet hit Ellis in the head and he toppled from his saddle. He fell among the rocks with a mortal wound as his horse galloped pell-mell into enemy lines.

Nicoll likewise joined his major and colonel in death. "He was pierced by three balls—one in his neck, one in his shoulder and one in his breast. He lived but three minutes after receiving these injuries," explained his father.

Nicoll lay wedged between two large rocks at the farthest point of the advance. Two of his comrades attempted to remove his body and were wounded or killed in the act. Others managed to recover the remains of Cromwell and Ellis.

By this time, the Confederates had surged forward, and the New Yorkers were compelled to withdraw. But the staunch resistance by the Orange Blossoms and other federals in this sector of the battlefield slowed the rebel advance, and bought time for Union forces that hastily arrayed for battle along the ridge of nearby Little Round Top.

The Confederates that occupied the abandoned position systematically lined up the dead federals and stripped them of their shoes and other valuables. It was about this time

that Lt. Ransom Wood took the testament out of Nicoll's pocket.

Nicoll's body was buried in the vicinity of where he fell. Two conflicting accounts of how his remains came to be buried survive.

According to a story in a New York newspaper, Confederates found the symbol of the Masons inside the Bible. Nicoll had joined the fraternity before he left New York, and the bonds of Masonry were stronger than the divisions that separated the disunited states. In light of this connection, and "true to the obligations of their brotherhood, though they had met in hostile array on the battle-field, the rebels stopped to give decent rites of sepulchre."

The report noted that the men gave Nicoll a proper burial, which included the placement of evergreens, the Masonic symbol of immortality of the soul, with the body. "A board was placed at the head of the grave, bearing his name, the number of his regiment, and a Masonic symbol."

Nicoll's father told a different version of the story. He noted that after the Confederates abandoned Houck's Ridge and Devil's Den, Union forces reoccupied the ground, "A brother officer found his body, buried where it fell, erected a board at its head with his name, regiment and company inscribed upon it."

A few days later inside the Hoover farmhouse, Nancy Hoover recalled that Wood passed the book around the table. His comrades took turns thumbing through its pages, which contained many notes and underscored passages. She told the historian, "Upon examining it one of them remarked, 'This Testament contains a request within it, which should be observed.' Upon examining the book and reading the request written therein Mrs. Hoover



124th New York Infantry Regiment monument at Gettysburg

promised that if the book were left with her she would send it to the person designated in it."

Mrs. Hoover's account suggests that Lt. Wood was unaware of the request inscribed in the book. Or, if Wood did have knowledge of this fact, he failed to mention it.

Wood left the Bible with the Hoovers. According to Mrs. Hoover, "Shortly after the departure of these officers, Mr. Hoover sent the Testament by mail to Mr. Nicoll, with a letter containing the circumstances under which he became possessed of it."

John Nicoll duly received the package. He replied in a letter to the Hoovers on July 24, 1863. "It is a precious relic of a dearly loved and highly honored son. In looking over its pages I discover memorandums of periods up to the day previous to his death, which were devoted (notwithstanding the long marches and fatigue attending them) to its perusal." He added, "This Testament, conveyed by his own hand, in view of the uncertainty of life, and the necessity of preparation, constitutes to me its greatest value," and also noted, "You can therefore appreciate the value I place upon this book—the cherished companion of his weary marches and lonely hours."

Mr. Nicoll recovered his son's body and brought it home to Blooming Grove. The remains were buried in a cemetery at nearby Washingtonville in October 1863.

After the war, the national organization of Union veterans known as the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) established posts across the country. The Washingtonville chapter was named the Isaac Nicoll Post in honor of the fallen captain.

The elder Nicoll died in 1874.

Seven years later, on a hot summer day in 1881, veterans from area G.A.R. posts assembled in Blooming Grove for a ceremony to dedicate a memorial to townsmen who served in the War of 1812 and the Civil War. "The monument," noted a local newspaper, "is a simple but handsome one of granite, surmounted by a bronze eagle, resting on a cannon ball and crossed cannon." An inscription on one face of the pedestal reads, "To the memory of Capt. Isaac Nicoll, Co. G., 124th Regt. N.Y. Volunteers, and the men from Blooming Grove who fought in the war for the Unity of the Republic, 1861-1865."

Library of Congress, By Ronald S. Coddington, Historian and Editor of the magazine, Military Images.

"We Were Cut Off!"

by Lieutenant Holman S. Melcher,
CWTI, December 1969

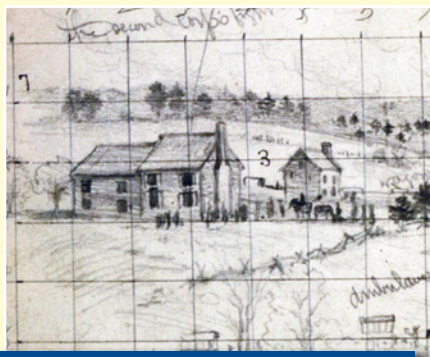
In the heavy fighting in The Wilderness, a young lieutenant and his company were trapped behind enemy lines and forced to fight their way back through to safety... Not content with this, they captured several prisoners and played havoc with a Confederate line in the process. In a memoir this lad of the 20th Maine tells how. . .

The 20th Maine, one of the more famous fighting regiments of the Civil War, suffered heavy losses at Gettysburg. The vacancies were afterwards partly filled by recruits, but the hard core of the unit, pitifully reduced in numbers, had to do most of the fighting in

the subsequent campaign. The Battle of The Wilderness opened on May 5 with a heavy attack by Warren's V Corps westward along the Orange Turnpike, an attack opposed by Griffin, the key division commander, by Warren, and probably by Meade, army commander.

However, Grant insisted that it be made. The Federals lost heavily, and were repulsed by Ewell's corps, although Bartlett's brigade of Griffin's division did break through the Confederate center. The following vignette describes the adventures of a small unit in this brigade, as told by the company commander. This was originally a paper read before the Maine Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

During the winter of 1863-64 many recruits had been sent to the 20th Maine Regiment, mostly substitutes and bounty jumpers, and I felt on assuming command of Company F that they would require much drill to reach our standards. But I quickly found that this new material was not the proper kind out of which to make good soldiers, and only the most persistent drilling and careful instruction would bring them to even doubtful efficiency. The work was pushed as fast as possible with the aid of my noncommissioned officers and by the example of the veterans of the company, true men and tried. The latter were survivors of that fearful slaughter on Little Round Top the preceding July, when ten were shot dead and thirteen fearfully wounded in this company of forty-three that carried the colors of the regiment through that terrible conflict.



War Time Sketch of Old Wilderness Tavern

Our regimental area, where we were guarding the railroad bridge at Rappahannock Station, was favorable for all kinds of training. Isolation from the rest of the brigade gave us room for skirmish drill and long-range target practice, which was fully utilized during the two weeks available. But considering the character and ignorance of military matters on the part of our new recruits, not one of them knowing how even properly to load a rifle, much less to aim. We got them up to a fair standard when the grand movement came. We marched at midnight, May 3-4, 1864. Crossing the Rapidan on a pontoon bridge at Germanna Ford, and plunged into The Wilderness.

Pushing forward with all possible haste, we reached Old Wilderness Tavern about 2 p.m. on May 4. Then we moved westward along the Orange Pike and bivouacked about a mile out toward Orange Court House on both sides of the road. to await the coming up of the VI Corps, which went into line on our right and the II Corps, which moved on toward the left near Chancellorsville.

The night was quiet and restful after our long march, but on the 5th the bugles sounded an early reveille for the



Major General Charles Griffin

forward movement. After we had made and drunk our coffee we were about ready to draw out into the pike to resume the march, when some cavalry scouts that had been far out in our front during the night came galloping down the road. They brought word that the Rebel army was advancing along the pike from Orange Court House and were already this side of Robertson's Tavern (Locust Grove) and not over two miles away.

Affairs changed very rapidly. Arms were stacked, shovels and picks brought up and every man worked with a good will to throw up breastworks along the line we had bivouacked on during the night, which was on a slightly wooded crest of a ridge running across the road. The pioneers cut down the trees in front of the works to give a clear field of fire and sharpened the limbs to make a temporary abatis.

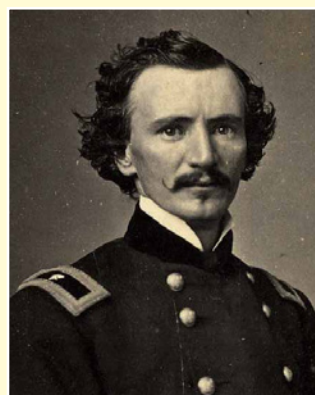
A battery of Napoleon guns came up and took position between our regiment and the one on the left, and by ten o'clock, covered by a goodly line of works and supported by batteries, we expected and hoped for an attack.

We never got to use this line position, for after waiting for an attack of the enemy till about twelve o'clock orders came to "advance and attack in force." Climbing over the line of works, we pushed out through the thick woods in our front—the right of our regiment resting on the pike—till we came near an open field. Here our lines were carefully formed, we being in the second line of battle.

The bugles sounded the charge. We advanced to the edge of the field, where we saw the first line of battle, about half way across it. It was receiving a deadly fire from an unseen enemy in the woods on the side.

The field was less than a quarter of a mile across, and had been planted to corn the year before, and was now dry and dusty. We could see the spurts of dust started up all over the field by the bullets of the enemy, as they spattered on it like the big drops of a coming shower along a dusty road. But that was not the thing that troubled us. It was the dropping of our comrades in the first line as they

rushed across the fatal field, and the realization that it would soon be our time to run this fire.



Brigadier General Joseph Bartlett

As we emerged from the woods into the field, General Joseph Bartlett, our brigade commander, came galloping down the line from the right, waving his sword and shouting, "Come on, boys, let us go in and help them." And go we did.

Pulling our hats down low over our eyes, we rushed across the field, and overtook those of our comrades who had survived the first line's fearful crossing. They were just breaking over the enemy's line. We joined them in this deadly encounter, and there in the thickets of bushes and briars, amidst the groans of the dying, the shrieks of the wounded, the terrible roar of musketry and the shouts of command and cheers of encouragement we swept away

Old Baldy's presentation: August 12 Meeting

“Defending the Arteries of Rebellion: Confederate Naval Operations in the Mississippi River Valley, 1861-1865”

Presentation by Neil P. Chatelain

By Kathy Clark, Member OBCWRT

Neil Chatelain's book was written with a look at naval operations from the Confederate perspective. There are many studies on the Mississippi River Valley focusing on the Union campaigns to control the valley and overlook the Confederate's attempt to stop the Union naval forces. Jefferson Davis realized the value of the Mississippi River Valley calling it the "Great Artery of the Confederacy". From the Confederate point of view, they wanted to control the entire Mississippi River Valley including dozens of waterways, bayous, and rivers like the Red River, Ohio River, Tennessee River to name a few. The Confederate Navy wanted these areas basically to have shipyards to start building ironclads. Between April 1861-March 1865 the ironclad program started by the Confederate Navy were prepared to build six ironclads in New Orleans, South Carolina built two, Virginia built two, Tennessee River built one, and Memphis built two.



Neil P. Chatelain

In 1861 the Confederacy planned for a naval force of 45 wooden steamships converted into warships, sailing vessels, and nine ironclads but only three were completed. There were many ship projects that were never completed by the Confederate Navy. The Union was better prepared with the Western Gulf blockading squadron, a Western gunboat flotilla, and United States ram fleet of nine ships. The 1862 Mississippi Valley Campaigns of the United States Naval forces began in February in the Upper Valley with fighting at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, Island #10, New Orleans in April, Fort Pillow and Plum Point Bend in May, the Central Valley, White River, Memphis and Vicksburg in June and July. Confederate counter attacks at Baton Rouge and were able to blow up the ship "Arkansas". By the end of 1862 there were back and forth attacks between Confederate and Union forces.

Confederate forces are overwhelmed during the river battles. Currently, they were recruiting Naval forces on the Mississippi River tributaries. There were Naval yards at Yazoo City and Shreveport reconstructing flotillas on the Red River, Atchafalaya River, Yazoo River and Arkansas River. With fortifications from the Head of Passes in the south to Columbus, Kentucky in the north, the Confederate presence in the river was a force that the Union Navy had to overcome to win the Mississippi Valley area.

With limited amounts of Confederate money, ship building technics and skilled laborers were hard to find so the Confederacy was converting Civilian River steamboats

into warships with a few canons and non-military sailors or borrowed soldiers. At this time the United States had already established a navy, a large labor group to create and activate its river squadron and superior manufacturing skills. By April 1862 the Confederate forces had the small one-gun armored ram "Manassas" and unfinished a 16-gun ironclad "Louisiana" to defend the forts around the city of New Orleans. Compare this with the United States with ten ironclads, 124 heavy canons by February 1862. Union campaigns along the Mississippi River in 1862 destroyed the Confederate wooden warship fleet and stopped the Confederate ironclad building program. The second attempt of ironclad construction was in the Fall 1862 on the Yazoo River, Red River, and Bayou Teche for six more ironclad. With lack of construction facilities and supplies there were delays in ship production.

The use of enslaved labor for "crew" members was common practice and some were "hired out" as skilled craftsman. Shipyards were run in large shifts of enslaved labor even though the slaves would try to get off the ships to escape. They were caught and returned to the ship. To get Confederate control of the Mississippi River Valley they constructed support around Vicksburg using all slave labor. At the start of the 1861 and the Mississippi River Campaigns the Confederacy continues privateering from New Orleans, seizing Ship Island, and by October 1861 at Head of Passes where the first Ironclad battle began. The Battle of Belmont was in November with an emphasis on the coastal areas of the valley region. Both the Confederate Navy and the Union Navy continued focusing on construction especially in the New Orleans and Memphis area of ironclads and converting smaller boats into a war fleet.

There were challenges to get the Confederacy organized between the Naval and Marine Corps. The Confederate reve-

Continued on page 12

Tom Scurria won the book from Neil P. Chatelain at the August meeting. "Defending the Arteries of Rebellion: Confederate Naval Operations in the Mississippi River Valley, 1861-1865"

A paid member will earn a copy of the presenter's book at the end of the meeting.

Regular Book Raffle Winners at the August Meeting - Bill Buchanan, Jim Heenehan and Dallas Mason (guest from Utah)

nue service had revenue cutters at the ready with the army run by privateers and blockade runners. The government needed men and supplies, so they contracted civilian steamers to get needed supplies and acquire manpower. They were always advertising for the Confederate Navy never had the items necessary to fight a war.

The root cause of failure for the Confederate Navy was basically time and supplies. The Union Navy was larger in manpower and equipment. When the Confederate did get a victory, they failed to capitalize on the tactical success and never followed through on these successes. Their organizational structure of getting ships finished was very slow or nonexistent as compared to the Union's ability to get ships built. Southern leaders had limited railroad facilities, fewer railroad lines, fewer miles of rails, and were not compatible gauges for effective usage. Lack of funding and organizational skills, lack of ships, material, time, and trained personal resulted in a weak Confederate Navy. Although the navy played a second role to the fortifications and armies protecting the waterways, they worked hard to win battles through a daring and inventive attempt of their own making but were never achieved.

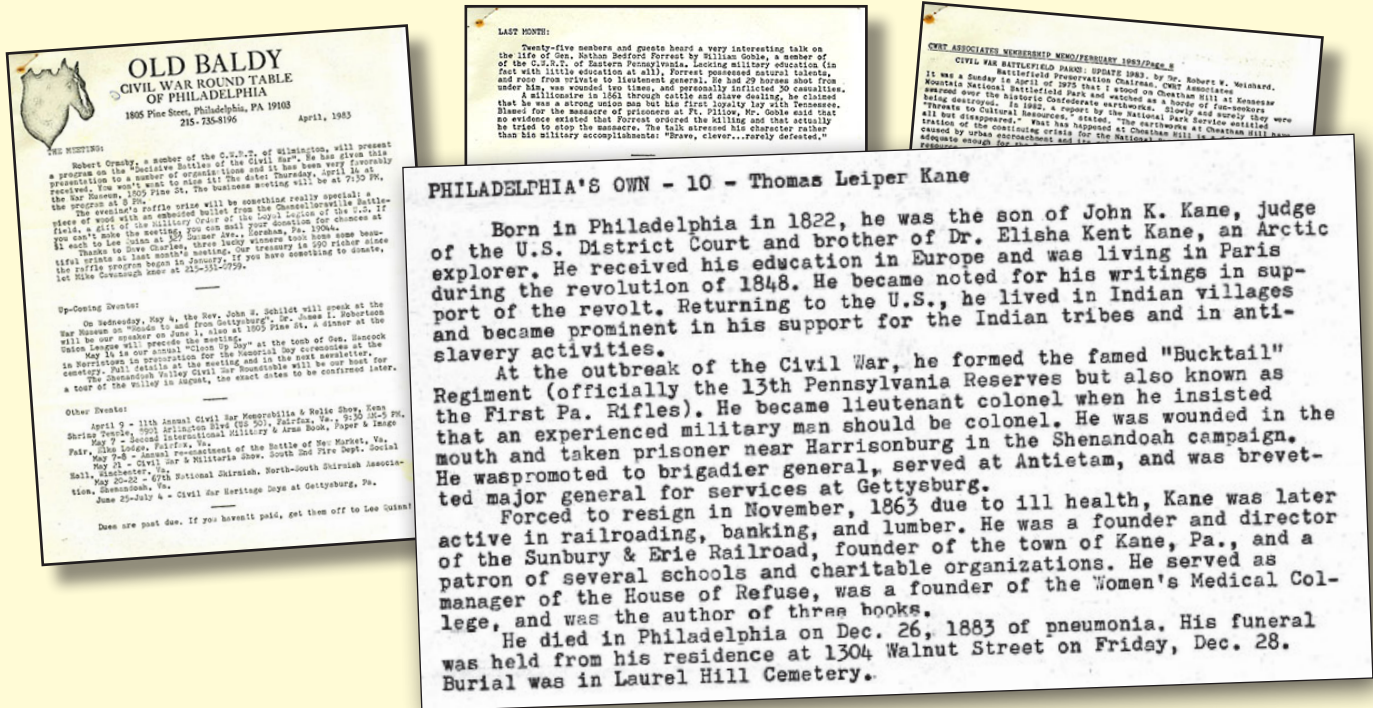
In the conclusion it must be said that the Confederate

Navy had more naval forces than had been reported. There were ambitious plans for Parity and Riverine Dominance in the Mississippi River Valley but was never followed through. The Southern forces did introduce new Naval innovations such as the first operational ironclad, first use of underwater torpedoes, the use of Army-Navy joint operations and the building of extensive river obstructions. The idea of the lost cause was weakened by using slave labor in many aspects of their ship building and operations. It must be said that Naval Confederate forces stood a real chance against the US Navy. The Confederates wanted to keep the Union forces from going down the river using captured Union ships to accomplish that goal.

This was a very interesting presentation by Neil Chatelain focusing on the Confederate point of view of naval operations. Very seldom do we get to talk about the Confederate Navy along with the innovations that were introduced during the Mississippi River Valley Campaigns. The members of Old Baldy CWRT enjoyed Neil's presentation and continued to talk about it after the meeting was over. Thank you, Neil Chatelain, for a thought-provoking way to think about Confederate Naval history. To read the history of this part of the naval battles on the Mississippi in more detail Neil's book tells the story.

Early Old Baldy Newsletter - April 1983

Bill Hughes, OBCWRT Member has provided some of the Early Newsletters from Old Baldy. Bill has put many years into collecting Old Baldy photos, histories and newsletters and is sharing them with us.



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Old Baldy Civil War Round Table

the resistance and scattered it. The enemy was Jones's brigade of Edward Johnson's division and Doles's and Battle's brigades of Rodes's division and we pursued them through the thick woods. Shooting those who refused to throw down their arms and go to the rear.

The pursuit with my company and those immediately about me continued for about half a mile, until there were no Rebels in our front to be seen or heard. As we came out into a little clearing, I thought it well to reform my line, but found no line to form, or to connect with. I could not find the regimental colors or the regiment.

There were with me only fifteen men of my company with two others of some other company. I was the only commissioned officer there, but my own brave and trusted first sergeant, Ammi Smith, was at my side as always in time of danger in battle, and I conferred with him as to what it was best to do under the circumstances.

There was nothing in front to fight that we could see or hear, but to go back seemed cowardly, as we did not know whether our colors were at the rear or farther to the front. I was twenty-two years old at this time and Sergeant Smith

None of my "recruits" were there. They had all disappeared in the first charge, of course, I said, "livery man load his rifle fix bayonets and follow me." And with Sergeant Smith by my side we started to cut our way out. In order to pass around the right of the Rebel line I took a course as far from the pike as possible while keeping a direction so as to come out somewhere near the works we had thrown up that morning. But the hope of getting around the Rebel right proved vain. An approaching their line we found that it extended farther to the right than we could see. Our only chance was to cut our way through.

Forming our "line of battle" (seventeen men beside myself)—in single rank, of course—with Sergeant Smith on the left, while I took the right, we approached quietly and unobserved. The Johnnies were all intent on watching for the Yanks in front, and had no suspicion that they were to be attacked from the rear, until we were within ten or fifteen paces. On the first intimation that we were discovered, everyone of our little hand picked himself a man and fired, and with a great shout as if we were a thousand, we rushed at them and on to them, sword and bayonets being our only weapons. "Surrender or die!" was our battle cry.

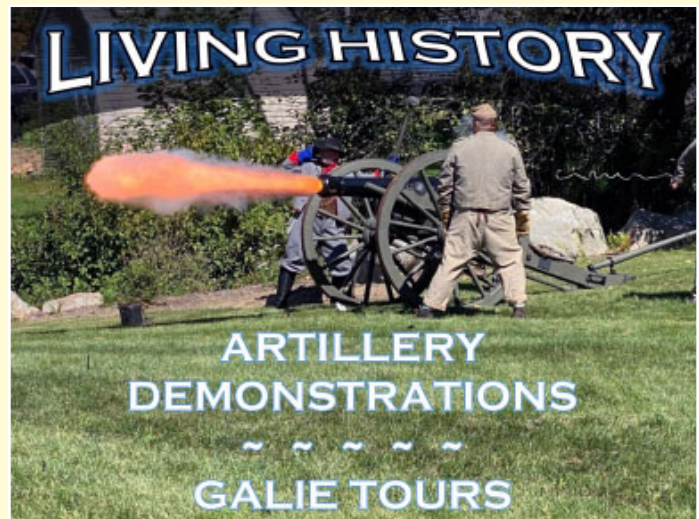
They were so astonished and terrified by this sudden and entirely unexpected attack from the rear that some of them threw down their arms and surrendered. The more desperately brave fought us, hand to hand, but the larger part broke and fled in every direction through the woods, and could not be followed by us or our fire, as our rifles were empty and there was no time to reload.

This was the first, and I am glad to say, the last time that I saw the bayonet used in its most dreadful and effective manner. One of my men, a boy, just at my side, called out to a Rebel to throw down his gun. Instead of obeying the enemy quickly brought up his musket and snapped it in the face of my man. Fortunately it misfired.

Continued in next issue - October

September 18 - 19, 2021 Monterey Pass Battlefield Park & Museum

Get a Feel for Military Life in the Civil War



**Schedule
Artillery Demos:
Daily 10 am and 2 pm**

**John Galie Guided Walking Tours:
Saturday 11 am and 3 pm
Sunday 11 am**

Join us for Artillery demonstrations daily by the 2nd Maryland Artillery who maintain the traditions of the "Independent Greys" * of the Civil War. Modern day Independent Greys are "living history campaigners" who teach about Confederate Marylanders' roles in the Civil War. They strive to re-create the best impressions of Marylanders possible based on research and documentation.

In addition, we'll be joined by John Galie, resident Monterey Pass battlefield guide, who will conduct walking tours of the battlefield.

* The name "Independent Greys" was used by several Maryland Militia infantry companies that formed a battalion within the 53rd Maryland Militia Regiment from 1859-1861. Shortly after the Baltimore Riot on April 19, 1861, it was clear Maryland would not secede. Most "53rd" members being pro "South", the unit dissolved. Many went to Virginia to serve. Over 25,000 Marylanders served in the Confederate Army and found themselves serving in Virginia Regiments since Maryland, as a state, never seceded. Some of these units were known as Independent Greys. The 2nd MD Artillery, also known as the Baltimore Light Artillery, served in the Army of Northern VA primarily with Cavalry units until the end of the war.

Food and beverages by Antietam Dairy

For more information about this and other summer programs, contact us at: Monterey Pass Battlefield Park & Museum, 14325 Buchanan Trail East, Waynesboro PA (just West of Blue Ridge Summit)

Website: montereypassbattlefield.org
Facebook: [facebook.com/montereypass](https://www.facebook.com/montereypass)
Email: montereypassbattlefield@gmail.com
Instagram: [instagram.com/monterey_pass/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/monterey_pass/?hl=en)



2022 Western Theater Symposium Information

We are just under one year for the Western Theater Symposium
(Postponed this year due to COVID)

Much work was done late 2019/early 2020 in planning, project lists and many of our members had volunteered.

We will be restarting the efforts and will be reaching out again to our members for support and volunteers.

The speakers, agenda and the facility (Rutgers) will be the same.

The event will be held on April 29 - April 30, 2022

Kevin M. Hale Award
for
best Historical Newsletter
in New Jersey

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2021

WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>
Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table

September 9, 2021 – Thursday
Herb Kaufman

“Little Round Top: Another Look—
Was it really the key to the Battle of Gettysburg?”

October 14, 2021 – Thursday

Dr. Caroline E. Janney

“Ends of War: The Unfinished Fight of Lee’s Army
after Appomattox”

November 11, 2021 – Thursday

Carol Adams

“Pulling for the Union: The Philadelphia and Reading
Railroad in the Civil War”

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia
Camden County College
Blackwood Campus - Connector Building
Room 101 Forum, Civic Hall, Atrium
oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Founded January 1977

President: Richard Jankowski
Vice President: Kathy Clark
Treasurer: Frank Barletta
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