

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

July 14, 2022

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

“Talking Flags: The United States Army Signal Corps on July 1”



Pete Miele



During the Gettysburg Campaign, the United States Army of the Potomac was relying on an infant organization, the Signal Corps, to perform duties of observation and communication. On July 1, in the Cupola of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Signal Officer Lt. Aaron B. Jerome was the “eyes” of General John Buford as the largest battle in the western hemisphere erupted. Pete Miele of the Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center explores how this organization was formed and how they affected the course of battle.

Pete Miele is Executive Director of the Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center, and President of the Seminary Ridge Historic Preservation Foundation. After graduating from Ramapo College of New Jersey with a degree in History and Secondary Education, he began his career in secondary education, teaching American History, World History, and American Studies. In 2013, he relocated to Gettysburg, obtained a MA in Applied History from Shippensburg University, and found employment with the new Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center. For seven years, he worked at the Museum in various roles in education and operations and, in 2020, was named the Museum’s Executive Director, the position he currently holds. A frequent lecturer, Pete has presented at national conferences of the Society of Civil War Historians and the American Association of State and Local History. His interests include 19th century mid-Atlantic social and cultural history, environmental and medical history, and museum studies. In fall 2021, Pete began work towards a PhD in American Studies at Penn State, Harrisburg.

Notes from the President

Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Independence Day weekend with family and friends. We are half way through another year and appreciating the Old Baldy experience. I hear our new meeting location and the portable microphones worked well. Good to see we had seven winners of the various book raffles. I will be present to experience the new location this month. We will gather at P. J. Whelihan’s Pub on Route 70 in Cherry Hill at 5:30 for pre-meeting discussion.

In June, **A. J. Schenkman** shared parts of his book, *Unexpected Bravery*, and

Meeting Notice

Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, July 14, 2022. This program will be presented in-person at Camden County College, William G. Rohrer Center, Room 117, 1889 Marlton Pike East, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003, and will also be simulcast on Zoom.

Please email oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net at least 24 hrs prior to request Zoom access.

Effective May 25, 2022, Camden County College will require wearing of masks in all indoor public spaces on all campuses, regardless of vaccination status, until further notice. Exceptions to this policy may be made for persons seated in indoor areas designated for eating, and for events that allow a designated speaker to maintain a distance of at least six feet from other masked attendees.

We will meet at P.J. Whelihan’s Pub, on Route 70, Cherry Hill, NJ at 5:30 PM before the meeting for dinner and pre-meeting discussion

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Rich Jankowski
President, OBCWRT



New Member



Michael Jeffcoat
of Charlotte, NC

told us about the courage and valor of women during the War. Review **Kathy Clark's** write up of the event and watch the recording of the presentation posted on our website. This month **Peter Miele** will join us to enlighten us on the United States Army Signal Corps and the valuable communication it brought to the battlefield. Invite a friend to join us for this interesting presentation. In August we will host a special program on landmines. **Kenneth R. Rutherford** will be coming up to share his research on Confederate anti-personnel landmines. Since we are expecting a larger crowd, we will convene on the Blackwood Campus. Watch our website and newsletter for the exact room number.

Thank you to everyone who staffed our display at the South Jersey History Fair. We talked to some fine folks, hope to see some of them at a future meeting. We will have more occasions to talk with the public in the Fall. Check this newsletter for two opportunities to assist our Round Table. One is as a Social Secretary for Flat Old Baldy and the other is to coordinate our Display Team. Flat Old Baldy has been on the road, on planes, boats and trains already this year. Follow his adventures on our Facebook page and in future newsletters.

We have a member profile this month and a Flat Old Baldy welcome of a remote member. There is a volunteer from VolunteerMatch.com working on more profiles for future newsletters. We also have two people helping to index our newsletters to better search them. The reusable bags with the Old Baldy logo are in the works and could be at our July meeting. Check the last page of the last few newsletters for information on the conference to be held later this month by the Society for Women and the Civil War,

We are at 75 members so far this year, let's grow that number by the Fall. Reach out to folks who might be interested in what we are doing to preserve the history of the Civil War era and educate the public on such, to come check out the difference our Round Table is making in our region and nationally. We are seeking a member or two to manage our Civil War Trails sign to be erected for the New Jersey troops who fought at the Battle of Williamsburg. If you would like to hear more contact **Rich Jankowski** or **Frank Barletta**.

Join us on the 14th at Whelihan's if you can and at our meeting for good fellowship.

Stay safe.

Rich Jankowski, President

Today in Civil War History

1861 Sunday, July 14

Eastern Theater

Success in western Virginia leaves McClellan and the Union in command of several important railroads, and also provides a secure base from which to conduct operations into the rest of Virginia. It also encourages the North to press forward elsewhere, and General McDowell plans to cross into Virginia with 40,000 troops. His first advance will be toward Fairfax Court House.

1862 Monday, July 14

The North

Congress approves the establishment state of West Virginia, made up from the part of the prewar state of Virginia that remained loyal to the Union. It does not approve of the president's proposed bill to compensate any State abolishing slavery.

Eastern Theater

General Pope advances the Union Army of Virginia toward Gordonsville.

Trans-Mississippi

A small cavalry skirmish is reported at Batesville, Arkansas.

1863 Tuesday, July 14

The North

The rioting continues in New York, with several hundred already reported dead. Blacks are hanged from lamp posts or burned in their houses. Widespread looting cannot be stopped, and troops are summoned from the Army of the Potomac.

Eastern Theater

Meade finally orders his men forward, only to find that the Confederate positions around Williamsport are held by a small rear guard. The Federals overrun it and capture some wounded and a few stragglers. Brigadier-General James Pettigrew, whose brigade had opened the battle of Gettysburg, is killed in this last skirmish of the campaign. Lincoln is furious at Meade for allowing the beaten Confederates to escape so easily. "We had them within our grasp," he rails. "We had only to stretch forth our hands and they were ours."

1864 Thursday, July 14

Western Theater

Bedford Forrest launches a succession of attacks against A.J. Smith at Tupelo. But the Union line does not give way and the Confederates are driven back. Union losses are 77 dead, 559 wounded, and 38 missing—a total of 674. Confederate casualties are 153 killed, 794 Wounded, and 49 missing for a total of 996. Although repulsed, Forrest's men still have enough fight in them to shell the Federal camp that night.

Member Profile - Marty Wilensky

*By Jim Heenehan,
Member OBCWRT*



Marty Wilensky

Marty Wilensky was born in Philadelphia and grew up in the northeast section of the city, attending Northeast High School. At 16 he took a job at Burger Chef, working there the next 5½ years. After graduating high school, he attended Temple University, commuting from home. Marty paid for his tuition and expenses from the money he made at Burger Chef. Besides paying for college, his time at Burger Chef led to another life-changing event – it's where Marty met his wife, Janice (she worked the counter while he had risen from burger flipper to assistant manager). They dated for several years and got married in 1973. They will celebrate their 50th anniversary next year.

Marty was a history major in college, where he focused on European history. However, senior year, he decided to take some accounting and business classes. After graduation, he continued taking accounting and business classes at Temple, earning enough business credits to take and pass the CPA (Certified Public Accountant) test in 1974.

After college, Marty held a couple of accounting jobs until September 1975, when he answered an ad for a local accounting firm, Blumberg, Seligman, Cupersmith & Company, LLP. The firm hired Marty as a CPA. He did well and was made partner in 1979. Many years later, in 2006, the firm split up, with Marty and Mr. Cupersmith forming Cupersmith, Wilensky, Stempler & Company, LLP. Marty is still a partner there, marking 47 years at the same firm and its successor.

Marty and Janice have three daughters and a son and four grandchildren. Their eldest daughter attended Gettysburg College, which resulted in many

Continued from page 3 - "Profile"

family outings to the battlefield at different times of the year while on college visits. She received her Master's Degree in Micro-Biology from Johns Hopkins and lives with her husband and two children in California.

A second daughter is an engineer currently living in Ohio with her husband and twin boys. A third daughter is an attorney in Chicago, while their son is an attorney with the DC Capital Police. On January 6, 2021, he was monitoring the actions of the police officers during that day's election protests. At some point, things escalated and he had a difficult time making it back safely to the police station when some protestors became more confrontational.

Marty taught his children the importance of history. In 1998, when the family took a vacation to Hawaii, he took them to Pearl Harbor so they would know what happened there and the sacrifices made by our military. Their visit to the Arizona Memorial was an emotional experience.

Marty enjoys reading about the Civil War. One of the first Civil War books he liked was Bruce Catton's *Grant Takes Command*. He also enjoyed Michael Shaara's *The Killer Angels*, as well as the various historical novels by Shaara's son, Jeff.

In addition to history, Marty's interests include Lionel trains. As a kid growing up, Marty remembers his dad setting up Lionel trains in the basement at Christmas and the fun he and his brothers had playing with them. So, when he and Janice moved into their home, Marty began collecting Lionel trains as well. He, too, set up his trains in the basement where his children could play with them. He still has his train collection, though they don't see as much action now that his children have grown and moved on.

So how did Marty team up with Old Baldy? Well, a few years ago, one of our members, Harry Jenkins, happened to be driving by Marty's office in Cherry Hill, NJ. Harry and Marty had been friends in Junior High School but had not seen each other in years. Harry saw Marty's name on the firm's sign and wondered whether this was the same Martin Wilensky he knew back in school. And in fact, it was. Marty ended up doing Harry's taxes and Harry encouraged Marty to join the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table.

We are happy to have Marty as a member of Old Baldy. And all thanks to a fortuitous outing by his old Junior High School friend, Harry Jenkins.

Special preview of our August program.

Dr. Kenneth Rutherford on "America's Buried History: Landmines in the American Civil War"

***By Dave Gilson,
Member OBCWRT***

In developing our schedule of speakers, I'm always trying to bring a diversity of topics and perspectives to our group. My sources include lists and reviews of newly published books relevant to the Civil War Era, and I noted the release of *America's Buried History*. The book relates the little known history of the anti-personnel landmine, introduced on a broad scale for the first time in the American Civil War. This sounded interesting and I tuned in to another round-table's Zoom with the author to check it out. It is an astounding story.

Ken Rutherford is an extraordinary individual. He is a professor of Political Science at James Madison University, and Director of JMU's Center for International Stabilization and Recovery. Ken holds a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University, and B.A. and MBA degrees from the University of Colorado. His presentation will be based on his new book *America's Buried History: Land Mines in the American Civil War*, and includes discussion of the personal experiences that shaped his dedication to the global landmine issue.

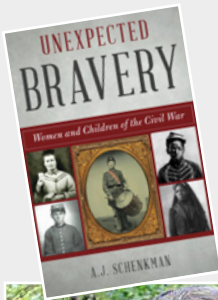
Ken served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Mauritania (1987-1989), a UNHCR Emergency Refugee Coordinator in Senegal (1989), a humanitarian emergency relief officer in northern Kenya and Somalia (1993), and was a Fulbright Scholar in Jordan (2005). He lost both legs to a landmine while

serving in Somalia. Ken was a leader in the coalition that won the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize, which included Princess Diana, and that spearheaded the 1997 International Mine Ban Treaty which was ultimately signed by 164 nations. He is also co-founder of the Landmine Survivors Network.

Please join us on August 11th for this remarkable program. Ken will be with us in-person, and the program will also be simulcast on Zoom.

Old Baldy's June Meeting Review
**"Unexpected Bravery:
Women and Children of The Civil War"**
presented by A.J. Schenkman

**By Kathy Clark,
Vice President,
OBCWRT**



A.J. Schenkman

Albert D.J. Cashier (Jennie Hodgers) was born in 1844 in Clogherhead, Northern Ireland with the possibility he was illegitimate. He claimed he had a twin who died at birth along with his mother. The family name is Cashier, so Albert took the name of his Father although there is no record of where his Father was living or even still alive. Albert's Uncle Dennis Hodgers became his guardian and as a sheep herder taught Albert all about sheep herding. Later Albert worked in a shoe factory. It was said that money was hard to find so Albert was always dressed as a boy for male clothing was always available around the house.

By the time of the Civil War Lincoln started to recruit men to serve. September 4, 1862, Albert enlisted in Company G. He was 19 and 5'3" the shortest in the regiment with amber hair, blue eyes, and light complexion. It seemed he had smallpox at one time for his face was pitted. Since there was no real physical examination by a doctor Albert kept his sex a secret. At the same time, he did not get close to other soldiers and did not participate in any kind of regular activities. No one saw him bathe or get undressed. Albert knew he had a job to do and was not afraid to work hard, just as hard as any other soldier.

After two months of training at Cairo, Illinois Albert moved with the 95th to a camp in Collierville, Tennessee. Under the command of Sgt. Onley Andrus, Albert dug canals so that the gunboats could get through. This was back breaking work with the canals all dug by groups of soldiers taking shifts day and night. The 95th were waiting for a battle for they had not "seen the elephant" yet many soldiers who finally did go into battle did not want to see it again. By May 19, 1863, the 95th attack was around Vicksburg. This attack did not cause many casualties with 25 killed, 124 injured and ten captured. It was then decided on a full siege of Vicksburg. During the attack Albert was captured while performing a reconnaissance mission. He escaped by wrestling the gun out of the Confederate soldier, chased for miles on foot, until he reached Union lines. During this time the water supplies were contaminated, not knowing, Albert drank the water and suffered "chronic diarrhea" for the rest of his life. The entire Mississippi now was in the hands of the Union and by July 1863 the 95th was headed toward Natchez, Mississippi. No shots were fired as they put down Confederate opposition and captured military stores that would benefit Confederate armies.

Presenter Book Winner - Martin McIntyre
Barney Yetter, Susan Prentiss, Corky Lowe, Amy Hummel,
Jim Countryman, and Mike Hoover won the attendees raffle

The soldiers returned to Vicksburg from October 1863 until February 1864 assigned to picket duty. By May 1864 were in Memphis protecting railroad lines that resupplied Major General Sherman on his Atlantic campaign. Troops were moved to operations in Arkansas again for picket duty and building fortifications. By October 1864 they were in Sedalia, Missouri

guarding the Missouri-Pacific Railroad. By the capture of Mobile on February 6, 1865, the war was coming to an end. Finally, by August 21, 1865, Private Albert D.J. Cashier was a civilian again.

Albert lived in Saunemin, Illinois and worked for Joshua Chesebro doing odd jobs and herding his cattle. Relocating into the town he worked at the Cording's Hardware store as a janitor as well as doing odd jobs. As time went on Albert was suffering with PTSD and was always thinking that people were out to get him. He was given a building lot to construct his own house and make sure that he had multiply locks on all windows and doors. In 1890 he filed his first request for a pension and was examined by the doctor but was still listed as male. It was finally granted to him for \$8 a month. Physically and mentally, Albert was not well, nervous, and shaky most of the time.

Another request for an increase in his pension and received \$12. By 1910 Albert's health got physically worse so that Mrs. P.H. Lannon (a nurse from Chicago) came to his home to help take care of him. In so doing she found out that Albert was female. This discovery gave her a shock but continued to keep the secret.

When he recovered, he got work as a gardener with the State Senator Ira M. Lish. While doing his work along the driveway the senator did not see Albert behind the car and ran over his legs. He was examined by a doctor and found out that Albert was female. He, too, did not say anything about what he found. Now that he could not walk any more it was decided to admit him to the Soldier's and Sailor's Home. Leroy S. Scott was appointed conservator but by the time Scott took the case Albert was going through "lucid intervals" with his mental health. Again, through examinations it was discovered that Albert was female but continued to keep his secret. The records at the home still said male. Albert was sent to Watertown State Hospital where he passed away on October 10, 1915. At this time his records stated he was female. At his funeral he received all the military honors any soldier would receive, dressed in his military uniform. He was buried in the Chesebro burial ground in the Sunnyslope Cemetery. A private in Company G after he found out that "Al" was a woman said, "She was a good comrade. She was a soldier with us, doing faithfully and well."

This is one story from Mr. Schenkman's book "Unexcepted Bravery: Women and Children of the Civil War." From a drummer boy of 9 or 10, to a nurse, medal of honor winner, women who became soldiers along with more interesting stories of bravery all to make the future of the United States of America. The story of Albert D.J. Cashier was an unbelievable story of a person who was brave and faithful to his company of fellow soldiers who were part of the many battles dedicated to ending the Civil War and living in peace.

Old Blady CWRT are pleased that you (A.J. Schenkman) brought this story and others to our meeting to learn and discuss. It was a pleasure to meet you and hope many of our members will buy your book to continue to read about ordinary people with their extraordinary Civil War stories. Thank You!

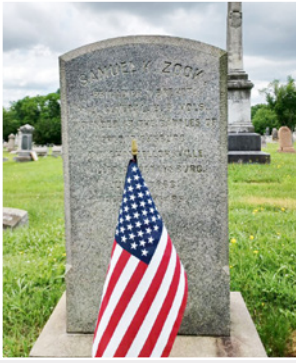
"Gettysburg – Day 2"

In anticipation of attending the Memorial Day weekend ceremonies at Norristown's Montgomery Cemetery, I read A.M. Gambone's biography of General Samuel Zook, one of five Union generals buried there. Enclosed is a photo of his grave on Memorial Day weekend.

And in further homage to General Zook, in late May I did a Gettysburg – Day 2 diorama featuring the Wheatfield, Rose Woods, Devil's Den and Little Round Top. Although I had to substitute a generic Union officer for General Zook, I got to use my General Warren, Colonel Chamberlain, and Colonel Kelly (Irish Brigade) figures, the 140th NY, and the flagbearers for the 69th NY and 4th Texas. I also used artistic license to include my Longstreet, Hood & Hancock figures. After all, it was Longstreet's attack and Hood's division while Hancock had previously commanded Caldwell's division advancing into the Wheatfield. Right after completing my diorama I learned that King & Country just released

***By Jim Heenehan,
Member OBCWRT***

Continued from page 6 - "Gettysburg Day 2"



General Zook grave at Norristown's Montgomery Cemetery, Memorial Day weekend.

a Colonel Strong Vincent figure which I sent away for and placed atop Little Round Top next to the main Union flagbearer.

So the diorama photos shown here are an overview of the Wheatfield, Rose Woods, Devil's Den & Little Round Top; a close up of the Wheatfield showing Caldwell's advance with Cross, Kelly & Zook's brigades (left to right) with Brooke's brigade in reserve and a mounted Hancock off to the left; Devil's Den with my Longstreet and Hood figures; Little Round Top with Colonel Strong Vincent to the left of the large Union flag rallying the troops; and Little Round Top with General Warren off to the left as the 140th NY he had commandeered charges over the hill to shore up Vincent's right flank against the attacking 4th Texas and other rebel units. Technically, the 140th did not get their Zouave uniforms until after the battle but at least it's the right unit. The diorama also includes about 40 figures from the 1960 Marx Toy Civil War set my brother and I got for Christmas when I was 9.

This July 3, I plan to visit Col O'Kane's grave in Philly's Old Cathedral Cemetery (48th & Lancaster). He commanded the 69th PA in front of the Copse of Trees during Pickett's Charge, until he received his mortal wound. I also have a Colonel O'Kane figure but that is another diorama for another day. -

Jim Heenehan



Wheatfield with (L-R) Cross, Irish & Zook brigades with Brooke in reserve.



Devils Den with Longstreet & Hood (artistic license).



Overview of the Wheatfield, Devil's Den and Little Round Top.



Little Round Top with Gen. Warren and 140th NY.



Little Round Top with Col. Vincent.

*By Dave Gilson,
Member OBCWRT*

"Who's Harry Gilmore?"

Jubal Early's 1864 Campaign

In late June '64 Jubal Early broke out of the Valley and began moving his 14,000 troops north and east toward Maryland. His objectives were to destroy Federal railroads and supplies, threaten Washington, and hopefully draw Union troops away from Lee at Petersburg. Lee also encouraged him to attempt to free Confederate prisoners at Point Lookout prison camp on the Potomac southeast of Washington.

On July 9 Early engaged and defeated Lew Wallace at Monocacy Junction

near Frederick, Maryland. Although delayed 1 day by the battle, Early then resumed his advance toward Washington. At the same time, BG Bradley Johnson's cavalry brigade of Early's Second Corps moved further eastward, driving retreating Union troops before them. Now north of Baltimore, Johnson destroyed bridges and track along the Northern Central RR. On July 10, Johnson detached 135 troopers of the 1st and 2nd Maryland Cavalry regiments under Major Harry Gilmor to continue east on their search and destroy mission, while Johnson and his main force turned south for Point Lookout.

Harry Gilmor's Raid

Gilmor arrived here at McCourtney's general store in Jerusalem Mill, Maryland on the 10th, seizing horses and supplies for his command.

"Harry Gilmor's Raid -- Great excitement in Harford County"

What caused the "great excitement" in Harford County during the summer of 1864?

It was the arrival of a detachment of the Confederate cavalrymen led by partisan Major Harry Gilmor. He and his troopers, mostly Marylanders, were part of a 12,000-man force under General Jubal A. Early that entered their home state from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley earlier in July.

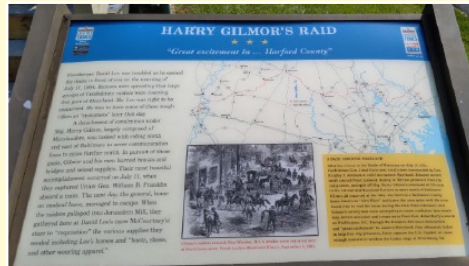
Their purpose was to threaten the lightly defended city of Washington, D.C., in an attempt to draw off part of the Union army menacing Richmond

and Petersburg, Va. After brushing aside an inferior Federal force at the Battle of Monocacy, near Frederick, Maryland, Early detached his cavalry under General Bradley T. Johnson to ride around Washington's eastern defenses and liberate Confederate prisoners at Point Lookout in Southern Maryland.

Johnson then detached Gilmor to pass north and east of Baltimore and sever communications with the North. As Gilmor and his men rode, they burned houses and bridges, seized supplies, and on July 11, captured Union Gen. William B. Franklin, who escaped the next day. Arriving here at the village of Jerusalem Mill, they "requisitioned" from David Lee's (now McCourtney's) Store "boots, shoes, and other wearing apparel." They also seized Lee's horses. The Confederates then departed, soon rejoining the main body and returning to Virginia. Early's 1864 Maryland campaign failed to breach the capital's defenses or free prisoners, but it did lure substantial numbers of Federal troops away from Richmond and Petersburg to strengthen the Washington garrison. [CWT]



McCourtney's Store on Jerusalem Road at Gunpowder Falls State Park, Kingsville, Maryland



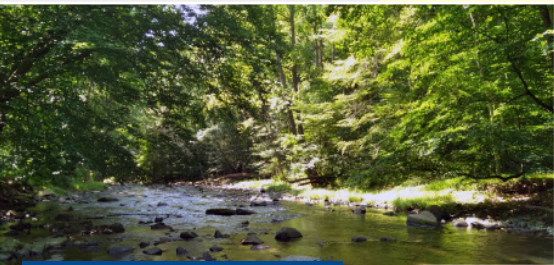
Magnolia Station and the Gunpower River Bridge

On the morning of the 11th, Gilmor's men approached Magnolia Station on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad near Joppa, Maryland.

"Gilmor's Raid -- Burning the Gunpowder River Bridge"

On July 6, 1864, Confederate cavalrymen crossed the Potomac River into Maryland as part of a 12,000 man force under Gen. Jubal A. Early, who planned to attack lightly defended Washington, D.C., and draw

off part of the Union army menacing Richmond and Petersburg. Union Gen. Lew Wallace's force, however, delayed Early at the Monocacy River on July 9. Early ordered Gen. Bradley T. Johnson's cavalry brigade to cut off Baltimore and Washington from the north, then to free 14,000 Confederate prisoners at Point Lookout, Maryland.



Little Gunpowder Falls at Jerusalem Mill.



After destroying the Northern Central Railroad bridge in Cockeysville, Johnson detached Maj. Harry Gilmore with 135 troopers to destroy the

Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad drawbridge over the Gunpowder River near Magnolia Station and Joppa. Gilmore arrived at the station at 8:30 A.M. on July 11 and captured the stopped northbound train from Baltimore. The engineer disabled the controls and fled. Unable to operate the train, Gilmore burned it.



**Train burning at Magnolia Station
Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper (1864)**

The next train arrived an hour later and fell into Gilmore's hands along with Union Gen. William B. Franklin. Gilmore detrained the passengers, set the train on fire and backed it onto the Gunpowder River Bridge. Although the Union gunboat Juanita and detachments from Co. F, 159th Ohio National Guard, and the Delaware Volunteers were guarding the bridge, they could not stop Gilmore. As the flames from the burning train engulfed the bridge, the Federal soldiers leaped into the river. A few soldiers uncoupled two cars and rolled them to safety, but soon the draw span collapsed and several cars plunged into the water. [CWT]



**Destruction of the Bridge Over
Gunpowder Creek
Benson J. Lossing,
Pictorial History of the Civil War
(1866)**



Present day Gunpowder River railroad bridge

Incident at Ishmael Day's House

Also on July 11, elements of Gilmore's roving troopers encountered local resident Ishmael Day in nearby Fork, Maryland. Sgt Eugene Field, Co. D, 2nd Maryland Cavalry took offense at Day's prominently displayed Union flag and ordered him to remove it. Day responded with a shotgun, mortally wounded the sergeant, and then fled into the country-side.

The troopers burned his house and barn in retaliation.

Gilmore and his men participated in the burning of Chambersburg, Pa., July 30, 1864. As Colonel of the 1st Maryland Cavalry he was eventually captured in Hardy County WVa in February 1865, and held in prison in Boston until released in July '65.

Post-war Harry returned to his native Baltimore, served as a Baltimore Police Commissioner and as an officer in the Maryland National Guard. He died in 1883 at age 45, and is buried in the Confederate Hill section of Loudon Park Cemetery in Baltimore City.



**Site of Day House, Sunshine Avenue
off MD-147, Kingsville, Maryland**

A street in West Baltimore was named "Gilmore Street" in his honor. Baltimore's Colonel Harry W. Gilmore Camp #1318, Sons of Confederate Veterans was also named in his honor.

Sources: nps.gov; HMDB.org; CivilWarTrails.org; loc.gov; findagrave.com; BaltimoreSun.com; essentialcivilwarcurriculum.com; landmarks.allenbrowne.info

Photos by Dave Gilson



**Colonel, CSA
Harry W. Gilmore**

Blue and Gray Chemistry

New ways of killing men were invented during the war but so were dehydrated vegetables, condensed milk, and various medicinal substitutes.

Continued from the June Issue

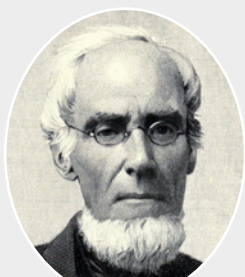
By David B. Sabine
CWTI, October 1969



Colonel, CSA
George W. Rains



Dr. John W. Mallett



Gail Borden, Jr.

The war kept the medicinal chemists busy too, but medicine was more of an art than a science and today's giant pharmaceutical industry did not then exist. Chloroform and ether were just beginning to come into general use. Much was faulty but in 1856 Dr. E. R. Squibb perfected an apparatus for the distillation of ether that produced the anesthetic in as pure a state as that used today. In fact, it is still manufactured in essentially the same apparatus. Dr. Squibb was able to meet the needs of the Federal Government and this supplied the impetus that eventually resulted in today's great House of Squibb.

The South suffered from distressing shortages of drugs. A large part of the Confederacy's medical supplies ran the blockade or were smuggled through the Federal lines. Some ether was manufactured by the Confederacy but most of what little they had came indirectly from Squibb and tradition has it that Lincoln chose to ignore this type of smuggling.

Malaria was endemic in the Southern States and the lack of quinine caused great suffering. There were many suggested substitutes, none very effective. One of them was the formula sent Surgeon General Moore in response to the request of an army surgeon in Georgia: ". . . to be issued as a . . . substitute as far as practicable for quinine: dried dogwood bark 30 parts, dried poplar bark 30 parts, dried willow bark 30 parts; whisky, 45 degrees strength; two pounds of the mixed bark to one gallon of whisky. Macerate fourteen days. Dose . . . one ounce three times a day." It may not have done anything for the malaria but the patient must have felt better after a few doses!

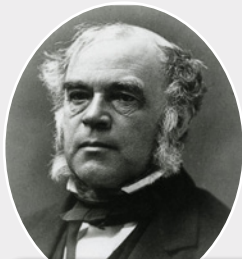
Galomel, the most widely used remedy of the day, was practically unobtainable and the substitutes extracts of Virginia snake root, dandelion, or pleurisy root—had little worth. Since the practitioners of that time gave such large doses of calomel that mercury poisoning was not unknown, this shortage may have been a blessing in disguise for the Southerners.

Dr. F. P. Porcher, finding that opium of "excellent quality" could be extracted from the local poppy, advocated a wide planting of the flower. Other supplies—castor oil, turpentine, chloroform, and adhesive plaster—were produced in chemical laboratories established by the Medical Department throughout the Confederacy but the output was insufficient.

As for food, little was known about nutrition; nothing about those accessory food factors, the vitamins. Scientific efforts were directed toward reducing bulk for convenience in shipping by concentrating or preparing extracts. Eben N. Horsford, professor of chemistry at Harvard, formulated a "marching" ration of beef sausage, roasted wheat, and a tube of a pasty mixture of coffee extract, condensed milk, and sugar. In hot water this made (almost) passable cups of coffee. General Grant was interested and tried out a small lot but the war was over before the tests were complete.

A concoction of desiccated vegetables consisting of cabbage leaves, turnip tops, and sliced carrots, turnips, parsnips, and onions, kiln-dried -and compressed into a solid block, was called desecrated vegetables by the Yankee troops but when soaked long enough and thoroughly cooked, made a reasonably acceptable soup or stew.

Gail Borden, Jr. perfected his condensed milk before the war but had had indifferent success in its market-ing. After Bull Run, the War Department stepped in with a large order for the hospitals, which helped this future giant Borden empire to a good start. Most of this canned milk, termed "consecrated" milk by the soldiers, went to the wounded and sick but occasionally the man in the field got a taste.



John William Draper

Woman's Work in
the Civil War,
1868

Some members of the
Society



Cornelia Hancock



Maria Hall



Eliza Harris

It was especially relished by the men in gray when they captured a supply train loaded with the milk.

Southern chemists, too, searched for practical components for compact field rations that were stable yet palatable. The soldier-chemist, Ira Blount, produced a concentrated beef juice that was an excellent restorative but he didn't know why. Vitamins had not been discovered.

As is sometimes the case, scientists, including chemists, of the Civil War period made contributions in other fields. One of the first complete histories of the conflict, published in 1867, was written by John William Draper, eminent chemist and first president of the American Chemical Society.

“Ladies' Aid Society of Philadelphia”

One of the first societies formed by ladies to aid and care for the sick and wounded soldiers, was the one whose name we have placed at the head of this sketch. The Aid Society of Cleveland, and we believe one in Boston claim a date five or six days earlier, but no others. The ladies who composed it met on the 26th of April, 1861, and organized themselves as a society to labor for the welfare of the soldiers whether in sickness or health. They continued their labors with unabated zeal until the close of the war rendered them unnecessary. The officers of the society were Mrs. Joel Jones, President; Mrs. John Harris, Secretary; and Mrs. Stephen Colwell, Treasurer. Mrs. Jones is the widow of the late Hon. Joel Jones, a distinguished jurist of Philadelphia, and subsequently for several years President of Girard College. A quiet, self-possessed and dignified lady, she yet possessed an earnestly patriotic spirit, and decided business abilities. Of Mrs. Harris, one of the most faithful and persevering laborers for the soldiers in the field, throughout the war, we have spoken at length elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Colwell, the wife of Hon. Stephen Colwell, a man of rare philosophic mind and comprehensive views, who had acquired a reputation alike by his writings, and his earnest practical benevolence, was a woman every way worthy of her husband.

It was early determined to allow Mrs. Harris to follow the promptings of her benevolent heart and go to the field, while her colleagues should attend to the work of raising supplies and money at home, and furnishing her with the stores she required for her own distribution and that of the zealous workers who were associated with her. The members of the society were connected with twenty different churches of several denominations, and while all had reference to the spiritual as well as physical welfare of the soldier, yet there was nothing sectarian or denominational in its work. From the fact that its meetings were held and its goods packed in the basement and vestry of Dr. Boardman's Church, it was sometimes called the Presbyterian Ladies' Aid Society, but the name, if intended to imply that its character was denominational, was unjust. As early as October, 1861, the pastors of twelve churches in Philadelphia united in an appeal to all into whose hands the circular might fall, to contribute to this society and to form auxiliaries to it, on the ground of its efficiency, its economical management, and its unsectarian character.

The society, with but moderate receipts as compared with those of the great organizations, accomplished a great amount of good. Not a few of the most earnest and noble workers in the field were at one time or another the distributors of its supplies, and thus in some sense, its agents. Among these we may name besides Mrs. Harris, Mrs. M. M. Husband, Mrs. Mary W. Lee, Miss M. M. C. Hall, Miss Cornelia Hancock, Miss Anna M. Ross, Miss Nellie Chase, of Nashville, Miss Hetty K. Painter, Mrs. Z. Denham, Miss Pinkham, Miss Biddle, Mrs. Sampson, Mrs. Waterman, and others. The work intended by the society, and which its agents attempted to perform was a religious as well as a physical one; hospital supplies were to be dispensed, and the sick and dying soldier carefully nursed; but it was also a part of its duty to point the sinner to Christ, to warn and reprove the erring, and to bring religious consolation and support to the sick and dying; the Bible, the Testament, and the tract were as

truly a part of its supplies as the clothing it distributed so liberally, or the delicacies it provided to tempt the appetite of the sick. Mrs. Harris established prayer-meetings wherever it was possible in the camps or at the field hospitals, and several of the other ladies followed her example.

In her first report, Mrs. Harris said:—"In addition to the dispensing of hospital supplies, the sick of two hundred and three regiments have been personally visited. Hundreds of letters, bearing last messages of love to dear ones at home, have been written for sick and dying soldiers. We have thrown something of home light and love around the rude couches of at least five hundred of our noble citizen soldiers, who sleep their last sleep along the Potomac.

"We have been permitted to take the place of mothers and sisters, wiping the chill dew of death from the noble brow, and breathing words of Jesus into the ear upon which all other sounds fell unheeded. The gentle pressure of the hand has carried the dying one to the old homestead, and, as it often happened, by a merciful illusion, the dying soldier has thought the face upon which his last look rested, was that of a precious mother, sister, or other cherished one. One, a German, in broken accents, whispered: 'How good you have come, Eliza; Jesus is always near me;' then, wrestling with that mysterious power, death, slept in Jesus. Again, a gentle lad of seventeen summers, wistfully then joyfully exclaimed: 'I knew she would come to her boy,' went down comforted into the dark valley. Others, many others still, have thrown a lifetime of trustful love into the last look, sighing out life with 'Mother, dear mother!'

"It has been our highest aim, whilst ministering to the temporal well-being of our loved and valued soldiers, to turn their thoughts and affections heavenward. We are permitted to hope that not a few have, through the blessed influence of religious tracts, soldiers' pocket books, soldiers' Bibles, and, above all, the Holy Scriptures distributed by us, been led 'to cast anchor upon that which is within the veil, whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus.'"

The society did not attempt, and wisely, to compete with the great commissions in their work. It could not supply an entire army or throw upon the shoulders of its hard-working voluntary agents the care of the sick and wounded of a great battle. Its field of operations was rather here and there a field hospital, the care of the sick and wounded of a single division, or at most of a small army corps, when not engaged in any great battles; the providing for some hundreds of refugees, the care of some of the freedmen, and the assistance of the families of the soldiers. Whatever it undertook to do it did well. Its semi-annual reports consisted largely of letters from its absent secretary, letters full of pathos and simple eloquence, and these widely circulated, produced a deep impression, and stirred the sympathies of those who read, to more abundant contributions.

As an instance of the spirit which actuated the members of this society we state the following incident of which we were personally cognizant; one of the officers of the society soon after the commencement of the war had contributed so largely to its funds that she felt that only by some self-denial could she give more. Considering for a time where the retrenchment should begin, she said to the members of her family; "these soldiers who have gone to fight our battles have been willing to hazard their lives for us, and we certainly cannot do too much for them. Now, I propose, if you all consent, to devote a daily sum to the relief of the army while the war lasts, and that we all go without some accustomed luxury to procure that sum. Suppose we dispense with our dessert during the war?" Her family consented, and the cost of the dessert was duly paid over to the society as an additional donation throughout the war.

The society received and expended during the four years ending April 30, 1865, twenty-four thousand dollars in money, beside five hundred and fifty dollars for soldiers' families, and seven hundred dollars with accumulated interest for aiding disabled soldiers to reach their homes. The supplies distributed were worth not far from one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, aside from those sent directly to Mrs. Harris from individuals and societies, which were estimated at fully two hundred thousand dollars.

In this connection it may be well to say something of two other associations of ladies in Philadelphia for aiding the soldiers, which remained independent of the Sanitary or Christian Commissions through the war, and which

accomplished much good.

The Penn Relief Association was organized early in 1862, first by the Hicksite Friends, to demonstrate the falsity of the commonly received report that the "Friends," being opposed to war, would not do anything for the sick and wounded. Many of the "Orthodox Friends" afterwards joined it, as well as considerable numbers from other denominations, and it proved itself a very efficient body. Mrs. Rachel S. Evans was its President, and Miss Anna P. Little and Miss Elizabeth Newport its active and hard-working Secretaries, and Miss Little doubtless expressed the feeling which actuated all its members in a letter in which she said that "while loyal men were suffering, loyal women must work to alleviate their sufferings." The "Penn Relief" collected supplies to an amount exceeding fifty thousand dollars, which were almost wholly sent to the "front," and distributed by such judicious and skillful hands as Mrs. Husband, Mrs. Hetty K. Painter, Mrs. Mary W. Lee, and Mrs. Anna Carver.

"The Soldiers' Aid Association," was organized on the 28th of July, 1862, mainly through the efforts of Mrs. Mary A. Brady, a lady of West Philadelphia, herself a native of Ireland, but the wife of an English lawyer, who had made his home in Philadelphia, in 1849. Mrs. Brady was elected President of the Association, and the first labors of herself and her associates were expended on the Satterlee Hospital, one of those vast institutions created by the Medical Department of the Government, which had over three thousand beds, each during those dark and dreary days occupied by some poor sufferer. In this great hospital these ladies found, for a time, full employment for the hearts and hands of the Committees who, on their designated days of the week, ministered to these thousands of sick and wounded men, and from the depot of supplies which the Association had established at the hospital, prepared and distributed fruits, food skillfully prepared, and articles of hospital clothing, of which the men were greatly in need. Those cheering ministrations, reading and singing to the men, writing letters for them, and the dressing and applying of cooling lotions to the hot and inflamed wounds were not forgotten by these tender and kind-hearted women.

But Mrs. Brady looked forward to work in other fields, and the exertion of a wider influence, and though for months, she and her associates felt that the present duty must first be done, she desired to go to the front, and there minister to the wounded before they had endured all the agony of the long journey to the hospital in the city. The patients of the Satterlee Hospital were provided with an ample dinner on the day of the National Thanksgiving, by the Association, and as they were now diminishing in numbers, and the Auxiliary Societies, which had sprung up throughout the State, had poured in abundant supplies, Mrs. Brady felt that the time had come when she could consistently enter upon the work nearest her heart. In the winter of 1863, she visited Washington, and the hospitals and camps which were scattered around the city, at distances of from five to twenty miles. Here she found multitudes of sick and wounded, all suffering from cold, from hunger, or from inattention. "Camp Misery," with its twelve thousand convalescents, in a condition of intense wretchedness moved her sympathies, and led her to do what she could for them. She returned home at the beginning of April, and her preparations for another journey were hardly made, before the battles of Chancellorsville and its vicinity occurred.

Here at the great field hospital of Sedgwick's (Sixth) Corps, she commenced in earnest her labors in the care of the wounded directly from the field. For five weeks she worked with an energy and zeal which were the admiration of all who saw her, and then as Lee advanced toward Pennsylvania, she returned home for a few days of rest.

Continued in the August Issue

Will try to find more photos of the ladies. Not many photos were taken of the women during that period of time...

Old Baldy CWRT Membership Help Positions

Flat Old Baldy (FOB) Social Secretary

Now that the world is opening, folks are traveling and events are happening; requests for FOB to join them and attend functions are being received. He needs a social secretary to schedule his appearances and trips.

Seeking a member to coordinate FOB's schedule so he can best accommodate his fans and spread the Old Baldy CWRT message. Getting FOB out will increase his exposure on our Facebook page.

This member would serve as the main point of contact to reserve FOB and then direct delivery of a FOB to the requesting party.

If interested in assisting to fulfill the mission of getting FOB to where he needs to be,

Contact a Board Member to let us know of your desire.

Display Team Coordinator

The Old Baldy CWRT makes appearances and sets up our display at various events and locations around the region.

These include the South Jersey History Fair, the Soldiers' Weekend at Fort Mott, the Civil War Weekend in Mullica Hill as well as special meetings and activities at the College.

To best serve this function, our Round Table needs an arranger for the Display Team. This member would register our appearance, distribute the sign-up sheet to staff the display, arrange for the set-up and take down of the display. This role of directing our Display Team would allow for a smoother process that will improve the outward face of our Round Table.

To learn more about this opportunity contact Rich Jankowski or Dave Gilson.



The Society for Women and the Civil War

**"Recognizing
Women's
Efforts,
1861-1865"**

Old Baldy CWRT Membership Help Positions

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

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2022

August 11, 2022 - Thursday
Dr. Kenneth Rutherford
"America's Buried History:
Landmines in the Civil War"

September 9, 2022 - Thursday
Elizabeth Leonard
"Benjamin Franklin Butler:
A Noisy, Fearless Life"
"

Thursday, August 11. The meeting will return for this month only to Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ. We plan to meet at the Lamp Post Diner at 5:30 before the meeting for dinner and fellowship.

Questions to
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