

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

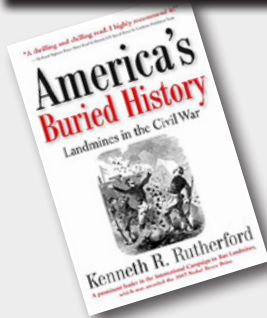
August 11, 2022

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

“America’s Buried History: Landmines in the Civil War”



Dr. Kenneth Rutherford



In “America’s Buried History: Landmines in the Civil War”, Dr. Kenneth Rutherford traces the development of anti-personnel landmines from their first use before the Civil War, to the early use of naval mines, through the establishment of the Confederacy’s Army Torpedo Bureau, the world’s first institution devoted to developing, producing, and fielding mines in warfare. Ken Rutherford, known worldwide for his work in the landmine discipline, and who himself lost both legs to a mine in Africa, relies on a host of primary sources to highlight the widespread use of landmines across the Confederacy.

Ken is a professor of Political Science at James Madison University, and Director of JMU’s Center for International Stabilization and Recovery. He holds a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University, and B.A. and MBA degrees from the University of Colorado. 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’s work spans over two decades in more than 40 countries, including Vietnam to bring assistance to survivors, and in Bosnia, where he escorted Princess Diana to visit landmine victims and their care providers in an effort to bring attention to their plight. He was a leader in the coalition that won the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize, and that spearheaded the 1997 International Mine Ban Treaty ultimately signed by 164 nations. Ken is also a co-founder of the Landmine Survivors Network.

Meeting Notice

We invite you to join us for in-person meeting at 7:15 PM Camden County College's 200 College Drive, Connector Building, Room 101, Blackwood, NJ 08012

The program will also be simulcast on Zoom for the benefit of those members and friends who are unable to attend. Please email oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net at least 24 hours prior to request Zoom access.

We will meet at the Lamp Post Diner at 5:30 before the meeting for dinner and fellowship.

Notes from the President

Welcome to August. Many folks have been out and about seeing the world and learning new things. We look forward to hearing about your escapades. VP **Kathy Clark** represented our Round Table at the **Society of Women and the Civil War Conference** in Harrisonburg, VA. She met one of our members from SWCW (**Janet Whaley**). FOB was happy to be back on the road in the last two months. He saw parts of Route 66 and attended seven minor league ballgames in July. Watch for his photos on our Facebook page. Share your adventures with Don to be included in a future newsletter.

Continued on page 2

President's Notes Page 1
New Members/Awards Page 2
Today in History Page 2
CWRT Award Page 3
Member Profile Page 3
July Meeting Review Page 4
Book Raffle Winners Page 5
Ladies Aid Society Page 6
White Roses Page 6
California Brigade Page 8
Killed... not in action Page 11
GAR Location Page 13
Membership Help Positions Page 14
2022 Speaker Schedule Page 14



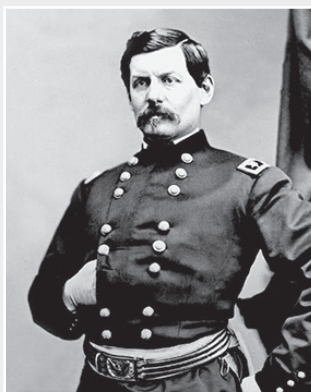
Rich Jankowski
President, OBCWRT



15 Year Award



Joseph Fafara



Major General
George Brinton McClellan

Last month **Pete Miele** ventured out to visit us in person to share his research on the United States Army Signal Corps on July 1. We had a fine turnout with 20 folks in person and 32 on Zoom. Thank you to **Mike Hoover**, from the **Inland Empire CWRT**, for sharing the link with Civil War enthusiasts in California. This month we will return to the Blackwood campus one last time to welcome **Dr. Kenneth Rutherford** to talk to us about **"Landmines in the Civil War."** This is a topic many people will want to hear more about so we are expecting a larger attendance. Come join us for our pre-meeting gathering at the Lamp Post Diner. Our meetings will return to the Rohrer Center in Cherry Hill beginning in September. **Dave Gilson** has some great programs scheduled for the Fall including a return visit by **Chuck Veit** in November. Visit our website for the latest information.

The Old Baldy CWRT reusable bags should be available at our August meeting to go out into the community. Our flyers and rack cards have been updated with labels showing our new meeting location. Be sure to pick some up at the meeting to distribute. If you have any that have not been updated, please return them so we can get a label on them for our Fall events. Read **Joe Fafara's** member profile and see him receive his 15-year pin from Flat Old Baldy.

Thanks to our volunteer writers we will be able to learn about our fellow members through the profiles for the rest of the year. Our newsletters are being indexed to make them easier to search and locate the material that has been published over the years. We are still seeking someone to coordinate our Display Team in its public appearances; a social secretary for Flat Old Baldy and a member to manage our project to get a Civil War Trails sign at the Williamsburg Battlefield. Please contact a Board member if you want to assist in continuing to move our Round Table forward.

We have been notified by the **CWRT Congress** that our Round Table will receive **2022 Wallace L. Rueckel Innovation Award** at their Sustainability Conference next month in Kenosha. More details are available in the announcement **Paul Prentiss** prepared for this newsletter. The Board would like to thank Paul for his work in compiling and submitting the application. Many thanks to all the members who contributed to making this Round Table the outstanding group it has become. The honor is great as the first winner of this award and we should all be very proud to get the Old Baldy name on the national stage. A press release will be sent out to the local media notifying them of this honor closer to the Conference.

Watch for signup sheets to staff our display at the events this Fall including Mullica Hill and Glassboro. It seems the **Inland Empire CWRT** newsletter editor has taken a liking to **Don Wiles** and our newsletter. It has been mentioned in their last two newsletters. Check it out for yourself at <https://www.inlandempirecwrt.org/newsletters>. Flat Old Baldy plans to pay those fellows a visit later this month to straighten them out.

Being back on the Blackwood campus will allow us to have one last pre-meeting dinner at the Lamp Post Diner. Come out and join us at 5:30.

Rich Jankowski, President

Today in Civil War History

1861 Sunday, August 11

Eastern Theater

General George B. McClellan is well into the task of reorganizing a Union Army disrupted by defeat at Manassas. In a memo requested by the president immediately after Bull Run, and considered and written over the next few weeks, he outlines his ideas. The main tenor of his argument is that the war is not like normal wars, where the aim is usually to gain a strong enough hand to win an advantageous peace settlement. In this case, it is necessary to crush an

Continued from page 2 - "Today in Civil War History"

intelligent and warlike population numerous enough to constitute a nation. He urges the formation of the massive military force necessary for the prompt and irresistible actions which would end the war quickly.

1862 Monday, August 11

Eastern Theater

A brief exchange of fire occurs at Wyoming Court House, West Virginia.

Western Theater

General Ulysses S. Grant makes it clear that fugitive slaves will be employed by the military under his jurisdiction.

Trans-Mississippi

The 7th Missouri Volunteers are badly beaten by Confederates in an action at Independence, Missouri. Further to the south, there is a skirmish at Helena, in Arkansas.

1863 Tuesday, August 11

Eastern Theater

The defenders of Battery Wagner bombard the Union lines, supported by the remaining guns of Fort Sumter.

1864 Thursday, August 11

Eastern Theater

Early withdraws from Winchester and heads south toward Cedar Creek as Sheridan's troops advance.

Old Baldy to Receive Award

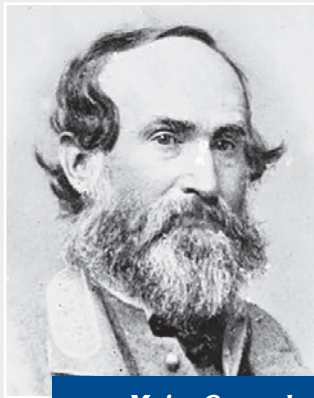
The **CWRT Congress** has informed us they will award the **2022 Wallace L. Rueckel Innovation Award** to our Round Table at the upcoming Sustainability Conference in Kenosha, Wisconsin in September. Named after one of the CWRT Congress' founders, this award acknowledges the enormous efforts our members have taken to develop alternative marketing methods, improve the experience for existing and new members, add member benefits, increase social media presence, all while continuing to promote preservation and education of the Civil War era by collaborating with local, regional, and national organizations. The award consists of a check for \$500, a commemorative acrylic award and recognition by the CWRT Congress. Our Round Table is the first winner of this annual award.

This is truly a team effort award. **CONGRATULATIONS!** All of your contributions, big and small, generated the critical mass that not only enabled our organization to overcome the COVID challenges but to expand and thrive.

We also want to congratulate the **Inland Empire CWRT** for receiving the **2022 Dr. John Bamberl Phoenix Award** for returning their Round Table to a strong position in Southern California.

Member Profile - Joseph Fafara

Joseph Fafara was born in Roxborough, Philadelphia in March of 1969. He grew up in Philadelphia and lived with his parents and brother in Marlboro. As a child, he enjoyed playing baseball, music, and the Civil War. He went to school at La Salle College High School, a private, Catholic, all-boys



Major General
Jubal Anderson Early



Major General
Philip Henry Sheridan



By Jenny Marmo,
Volunteer OBCWRT

preparatory school in Philadelphia. After he graduated in 1987, he went to college at Temple University and graduated in 1992. He then went on to become a high school teacher for the School District of Philadelphia where he teaches U.S. history and U.S. government.

After meeting her at a wedding, Joseph married his wife Cathy in 1999. They had three daughters together named Jasmine, Abrielle, and Jordan. They now have two grandchildren, Alex and Alea, who live nearby and visit once a week. Joseph's hobbies are similar to his hobbies as a child, as he watches baseball, listens to live music, and is still interested in the Civil War. He also enjoys playing the game Wordle and drinking craft beer. He and Cathy go on walks together on the Valley Green and Forbidden Drive trails in Philadelphia. They plan on retiring and moving to Nashville in two years.

He became interested in the Civil War when he read the Time-Life Civil War book series when he was in grade school. This series highlights the many battles and campaigns that took place during the war with each book focusing on a Civil War different topic. A childhood trip to the Gettysburg battlefield also piqued his interest. These things jump started a lifetime hobby and a career surrounding history. As well as the Civil War, Joseph is interested in history about U.S. presidents, the American Revolution, and Americans exploring the West.

Joseph joined the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table after he learned about the group in his time at Temple University. He is a member of many other history-related groups as well. The Surratt Society is a group dedicated to learning about the Lincoln assassination and the Surratt House. This group has monthly newsletters and plans tours to share information about the assassination and the events caused by it. The Blue and Gray Education Society raises money for the preservation of Civil War settings and plans tours surrounding early American history. The Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides of Gettysburg has events in Gettysburg for its members as well as a newsletter. The National Civil War Museum gives members access to free admission, tours with the curator, and a quarterly newsletter. The Adams County Historical Society houses artifacts and records pertaining to Gettysburg and raises funds for a new museum called *Beyond the Battle*.



Joseph Fafara



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

Old Baldy's July Meeting Review **"Talking Flags: The United States Signal Corps on July 1 and Beyond"** **presented by Peter Miele**

Albert J. Myer MD is called the Father of the Signal Corps. He worked as a telegraph operator before entering Geneva College in Geneva, New York in 1842, graduating in 1847. Dr. Myer received his MD from Buffalo Medical College in 1851 while working parttime for the New York State Telegraph Company. Albert Myer wrote his doctoral thesis: *A New Sign Language for Deaf Mutes in 1851*. He was sent to Texas as an assistant surgeon in the US Army, continuing to work on experiments on signaling. Observing the Indian Tribes signaling from hill to hill, Albert Myer designed what was called the wig-wag signaling system using a signal flag (or a lantern or kerosene torch at night). This system was used by both the Union and Confederate sides during the Civil War and afterward.

In 1858 Myer went before the board to convince them to authorize field testing of his invention. His testing was successful and he was appointed Major and Chief Signal Officer. The Signal Corps was born even though there was some opposition from Jefferson Davis from Mississippi who was not in favor of the decision. Currently the Signal Corps was not a separate group. When the Civil War broke out Myer recruited and trained officers with his school of instruc-



Pete Miele

tion. By the end of the war 300 officers and 2500 soldiers were part of the Signal Corps.

This Signal Corps was designed to be operated by two officers and used tools that could be carried easily from station to station. There was some difficulty using this at night. If the officers were stationed very high in the hills the Signal Corps was very useful as an observation tool. As the system grew the officers decoded and encoded signals and the private soldier would wave the flag and incoming messages. The equipment included several different size flags, torches for night signing and telescopes which could be packed up and moved by horseback. Average distance for signals sent and received were from 8 to 15 miles depending on the weather. It was Michael Jacobs who recorded the weather for the three days of the Gettysburg battle. These stations were set up like a relay station and ending with access to a telegraph. During the battle of Gettysburg, the Signal Corps had a station on Little Round Top reporting the movement of Confederate troops. For the most part the station did very well with only a few casualties from Confederate artillery and sniper fire.



There were three signal station sites in Gettysburg. The Lutheran Seminary Cupola, Penn Hall, Gettysburg College, and Gettysburg Courthouse. Chief Signal Officer was Lt. Aaron Jerome who on June 30th established a signal observation station in the cupola and later in the cupola of Pennsylvania Hall at Gettysburg College. Lt. Jerome observes from the cupola that the battle was coming from the South and men from the North. This station transmitted numerous reports as to the number and movement of the Confederate troops. Lt. Jerome's signal corps, using his glasses, on more than one occasion kept the First Cavalry Division advised of the enemy's movements when no other means was available.



On July 2, 1863, Capt. Lemul B. Norton, Chief Signal Officer of the army of the Potomac stressed how important the Signal Corps was to this battle. He was on Little Round Top and was used by several two-man signal detachments with Lt. Jerome the first to use the station on day two of the battle. On day three the Signal Corps held their position and operations.



Basic instruction for all Signal Corps students was to practice the drill regularly and study the principals of signaling, commit to memory certain signals and alphabets to be used at the time. The student practiced with a "wand", a slender rod about 18 inches long for sending signals by the instructor, rapid movement of the wand and then sending messages to each other rapidly. These students took an oath to never have any code written down on anything. If the code was written on a piece of paper the instructor was to memorize and then destroy the paper. At the same time the students learned the motions to prevent wrapping the flag around the pole. There were two officers at each station and enlisted men who had to always know the system.

Today the Signal Corps is remembered with plaques in areas of Gettysburg where stations had been located. In today's classroom the students have fun making their own flags as a classroom project and at the Seminary Ridge Museum have organized programs on how the Signal Corps used the flags that the students made. It was partly fun and partly a lesson for the students to learn the basics of the Signal Corps. As you may know the Signal Corps still exists today. Over its history it has acquired new technology and responsibilities such as military intelligence, weather forecasting and aviation.

Presenter Book Winner - Ellen Higgins
Dan Ingald, Corky Lowe, Paul Prentiss, Dan Hummel, Ed Komczyk and Gary Kaplan. won the attendees raffle

Peter Miele gave us the history of the Signal Corps especially as it was used at the battle of Gettysburg. There is always something new to learn and for some

of us the Signal Corps was a new learning experience. We are glad that Peter could join us at our meeting in Cherry Hill and could also be seen on Zoom for our members who could not be with us in person. Thank you, Peter, for your knowledge and for bringing the history of the Signal Corps to our roundtable.

“Ladies’ Aid Society of Philadelphia”

Continued from the July Issue

**Woman’s Work in
the Civil War,
1868**

Satterlee Hospital in Philadelphia



Then came Gettysburg, with its three days of terrible slaughter, and Mrs. Brady was again at her work day and night, furnishing soft food to the severely wounded, cooling drinks to the thirsty and fever-stricken, soothing pain, encouraging the men to heroic endurance of their sufferings, everywhere an angel of comfort, a blessed and healing presence. More than a month was spent in these labors, and at their close Mrs. Brady returned to her work in the Hospitals at Philadelphia, and to preparation for the autumn and winter campaigns. When early in January, General Meade made his Mine Run Campaign, Mrs. Brady had again gone to the front, and was exposed to great vicissitudes of weather, and was for a considerable time in peril from the enemy’s fire. Her exertions and exposures at this time brought on disease of the heart, and her physician forbade her going to the front again. She however made all the preparations she could for the coming campaign, and hoped, though vainly, that she might be permitted again to enter upon the work she loved. When the great battles of May, 1864, were fought, the dreadful slaughter which

accompanied them, so disquieted her, that it aggravated her disease, and on the 27th of May, she died, greatly mourned by all who knew her worth, and her devotion to the national cause.

The Association continued its work till the close of the war. The amount of its disbursements, we have not been able to ascertain.

“Those White Roses”

**Mary A. Gardner Holland
Our Army Nurses
1895**

Rebecca Wisewell

I enlisted in Boston, the first week in March, 1862, and was in Government employ three years and four months. Miss Dix sent for me. I used to do up bandages, and carry them to the State House every day. They said mine were the best of any. One day they asked me if I had ever nursed. I told them I had for twenty years in Boston. They asked if I had any recommendations, and I told them I had plenty at home. "Will you please bring them up here and let us see them " they said. Then after looking at them: "No one who has gone from this part of the country has had such high recommendations. You ought to be out at the front; and with your consent we will telegraph." So they immediately sent for me to go to Washington, and I spent the first night with Miss Dix. Next day she took me up to Seminary Hospital. I stayed there a little over two years; then went up the Shenandoah Valley, and was there over four months; then was sent to Fortress Monroe, where I stayed four months more. "Was very sick the last fortnight. I had a young man in my ward who would not tell where he belonged until the afternoon before he died; then he told me, and asked me to sing to him, and read a little from the Bible. I asked him where I should read, and he said, "Where you open; and sing, "My heavenly home is bright and fair." After I had done this he said, "Now I want you to tell me just how long it will take me to die." "My dear, I can't tell you that," I said. "None but God knows. Are you in a hurry to go?" "Yes; I long to be gone." He soon passed



Rebecca Wisewell

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.

***By Rebecca Larson,
White Roses, 1997***

away, I trust to that bright world above where there is "rest for the weary."

I had one man who had six little boys and a wife. "Oh, how I long to see them!" he would say. But that can't be; I must leave them to God's care." There were men there who were shot through the bowels. They were very hard to take care of. The worst case no doctor ever dressed but three times; then he was left in my care, and I did it five months. God does many wonderful things. We have great reason to bless and praise Him. I met one of those men in Washington at the Grand Army, a dear general, who said: "You saved my life. The doctor said I would die; but you said, "You will live." The Lord does wonderful things that we poor creatures can't do.

May 20th I went to Annapolis, to see my nephew. There were about five thousand troops getting ready to move on to Richmond. The next week they were on the way.

In September we had left at our door a baby boy, about three months old. I took him into my room and kept him two days. I don't know what has become of him; he was put into the poorhouse. I saw him when he was two years old, and he was a smart little fellow.

After we had been in the Shenandoah Valley about four months, we nurses were ordered farther South; but rested in Washington three weeks before going into such hard service.

We had in the ward a young man who belonged in New York. He was brought in about eight o'clock one morning, and lived only until half past two P. M. He was very happy. I sang to him about two hours while he was dying. The officers would look at him and say, "How that man suffers!" "No, I don't," was his reply. "Jesus suffered it all. I shall soon be at home with him, and what a glorious meeting that will be. Jesus can make dying easy. There is something in my haversack I should like to look at once more." I opened it, and found photographs of his mother, his sister, and the lady to whom he was engaged. He kissed them, and said: "I hope they will be prepared to meet me in heaven. I shall soon be there." Oh what a glorious death-heel scene to witness!

I often used to look at the troops, and the sight reminded me of the Day of Judgment, so many on the march.

We had some grand meetings during the war. President Lincoln used to say: "We need less talk, and more praying. God will hear and answer prayer."

I often sang for my patients when requested to do so, and I have stood by some of the most blessed death-bed, I can imagine. There were a great many praying men in the army, - a great many I hope to meet on the other shore.

I can't write well, my hands tremble so very much. I was 88 years old the 24th day of last September.

Ella Cooper

Ella Cooper is a virtual unknown as far as her childhood. She completed her course of studies at the Medical College of Cincinnati but was not allowed to graduate. She spoke on her graduation day in outrage: "I am a woman and have been so trained to feel that a woman can not walk out of a certain routine, even to do good."

Undaunted and ready to serve, Ella moved south to serve the Confederacy. She nursed the wounded and dying, and cooked and cleaned for the military hospitals. Ella administered and managed laundries, kitchens, and dispensaries with efficiency. On one occasion, Ella remarked to a newspaper reporter: "The doctors were a little astonished when they saw me, to find that a woman can do something."

Lennie Russell

In June 1863, during the Second Battle of Winchester, Virginia, Confederate Randolph Ridgely was severely wounded, and could not be moved as long as the battle continued. Lennie Russell volunteered to care for him. "All through the anxious night, the brave girl sat sustaining the head of the wounded youth and carefully guarding him against anything that could disturb him," read the commendation given to Lennie by Confederate General D. H. Maury.

For Old Baldy's new friends at the Inland Empire CWRT in California. We would like to share our California connections. Our WEB Master and Civil War Map Cartographer resides in Redwood City, Hal Jepersen. We would also like to share with you the Gettysburg connection.

California Brigade at Gettysburg



Senatot Edward Baker

When the Civil War broke out, residents of the west coast wanted to have a presence in the eastern theater. However, with nearly 3,000 miles separating the state of California and the Army of the Potomac and no railroad connecting the west coast to the east, sending a brigade of infantrymen across the wild country would be an ambitious goal. Instead, a group of Californians asked Oregon Senator Edward Baker to head east and raise a brigade in the name of California.

In April 1861, Baker was commissioned by Abraham Lincoln to raise a California brigade in Philadelphia. The first regiment Baker organized, the 1st California, consisted of Philadelphians and was placed under immediate charge of Colonel Isaac Wistar, who had been a ranger in California during the 1850s. By October Baker's brigade had grown to its full size, consisting of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th California Infantry.

During the battle of Ball's Bluff, Senator Baker, the California Brigade's creator and commander, was killed. Following the death of Senator Baker, the state of Pennsylvania reclaimed the California Brigade.

California Brigade - 1st California Regiment (71st Pennsylvania Infantry)

The 71st Pennsylvania was organized in August 1861 by Oregon Senator Edward D. Baker, composed of 15 companies instead of the standard 10.

Although raised from residents of Philadelphia, it was initially designated the 1st Regiment, California Volunteer Infantry in deference to Baker's wishes. After his death at the Battle of Balls Bluff in November 1861, it was renamed the 71st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. It was grouped with the 69th, 72nd, and 106th Pennsylvania regiments to form the famous Philadelphia Brigade.

The 71st was assigned to the II Corps in time to participate in the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. During

the Seven Days Battles, it made several charges, losing many officers and men. After reaching Harrison's Landing, companies L, M, N, P, and R were merged into the first ten companies. The regiment, along with rest of the Army of the Potomac, was transferred to northern Virginia. Here the 71st fought at the battles of Second Bull Run and Chantilly. It helped cover Pope's retreat. At the Battle of Antietam that September, the regiment lost one third of its strength. It again suffered heavy losses at the Battle of Fredericksburg in December.

At the Battle of Gettysburg, the 71st was positioned at the famous Angle on Cemetery Ridge. On July 2, it helped defeat the attack by Brig. Gen. Ambrose Wright's brigade. On July 3, it was briefly sent to Culp's Hill but was returned to Cemetery Ridge. Half of the regiment was placed along the advanced wall with the 69th Pennsylvania to its left, while the other half was 50 yards to its right-rear. During Pickett's Charge, the left portion of the regiment abandoned their position at the rock wall and fled in cowardly fear from Pickett's charge and was forced back from the wall and nearly routed. Brig. Gen. Alexander S. Webb managed to rally the regiment near the 72nd and 106th Pennsylvania, but was unable to convince any of the three units to counterattack at first. Finally after several minutes, they helped pushed the Confederates out of the Angle. The 71st lost 98 officers and men during the attack, including nine out of fifteen officers.

California Brigade - 2nd California Regiment (69th Pennsylvania Infantry)

The 69th Pennsylvania was recruited from Philadelphia Irish militia companies of the 2nd Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia. It was mustered into



**71st Pennsylvania Infantry
"1st California Regiment"**
Second Corps - USA
Second Division - Second Brigade
Colonel Richard P. Smith
Engaged: 380 Casualties: 192
Dedicated: August 1883



71st Pennsylvania Infantry
Left and Right Flank Markers

Medal Of Honor
71st Pennsylvania Infantry
Private John E. Clopp*, Company F



**69th Pennsylvania Infantry
"2nd California Regiment"**

Second Corps - USA
Second Division - Second Brigade
Colonel Dennis O'Kane (MW)
Lieutenant Colonel Martin Tschudy (K)
Major James M. Duffy (W)
Captain William Davis
Engaged: 284 Casualties: 137
Dedicated: September 1889



**Colonel
Dennis O'Kane (MW)**

service on August 19, 1861, with Joshua T. Owen as its first colonel. Many of its members had served in the 24th Pennsylvania, a three-month volunteer regiment. The unit was first designated the 2nd California. It left for Washington, D.C. that September, before being assigned to the Army of the Potomac in October as part of Colonel Edwin Baker's California Brigade. The regiment's first action was at the Battle of Balls Bluff. After this battle, its name was changed to the 68th Penna. for a short time and then the 69th. They made an attempt with the 69th New York to form an Irish Brigade, but Governor Andrew Gregg Curtin of Pennsylvania opposed the idea, which led to the proposal being dropped. The 68th had their regimental designation changed to the 69th in honor of the 69th New York Infantry.

The 69th served in the Peninsula Campaign, during which it was complimented by Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker for making "the first successful bayonet charge of the war." Its next major action was at the Battle of Antietam. It lost heavily at the Battle of Fredericksburg, but missed any major action at Chancellorsville, seeing only minor skirmishing.

The unit played a critical role at the Battle of Gettysburg, helping repel both Brig. Gen. Ambrose Wright's charge on July 2 and Pickett's Charge on July 3. Its casualties over the last two days of the battle were enormous, losing 143 men out of 268, including Colonel Dennis O'Kane, Lieutenant Colonel Martin Tschudy, two captains, and a lieutenant.

The regiment's ranking officer, Major Duffy, was seriously wounded but refused to give up command until the battle was over. The 69th was the only regiment not to withdraw

from defending the stone wall in front of the Copse of Trees during the charge. They were heavily engaged in hand to hand combat; while having been flanked on their right and left flanks as a result of the withdrawal of the two companies from the 71st Pennsylvania Infantry, on their right, and the 59th New York Infantry, on their left. Following the repulse of Pickett, there were numerous Confederate Battle Flags left lying on the field directly to the front of the 69th. The 69th was so devastated by casualties and busy tending to its own wounded while also sending Confederate prisoners to the rear that it failed to secure any. Instead members of regiments who came to assist the 69th with the repulse, during a later point of the assault, went to the 69th's front and claimed the flags as prizes. The 69th finished the campaign under the command of Captain William Davis of Co K.

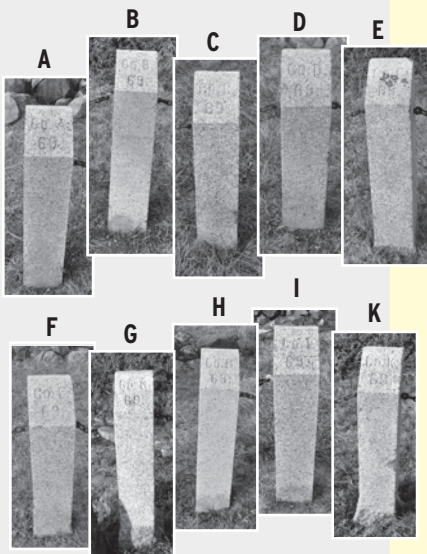
The 69th was the only Pennsylvania regiment to carry a green "Irish" flag into battle.

California Brigade - 3rd California Regiment (72nd Pennsylvania Infantry)

After Baker's death October 21, 1861 at the Battle of Ball's Bluff, Pennsylvania reclaimed the regiments as its own. The California Brigade became the Philadelphia Brigade and each unit was given a new number. The Third California Regiment became the 72nd Pennsylvania Regiment. After some months of patrolling along the Potomac River, the 72nd was transported to the Peninsula. It saw its first action at the Battle of Seven Pines on May 1, 1862. During the Seven Days Battles, it supported the army's rear guard.

The 72nd saw light skirmishing at the Battle of Chantilly. At the Battle of Antietam, the regiment participated in the attack on the West Woods, being routed along with much of the rest of the division. Nearly half of the regiment was lost, including several officers killed.

At the Battle of Gettysburg, it defended the Angle on July 2 and 3. On the evening of the 2nd, it helped defeat Confederate Brigade General Ambrose R. Wright's attack, advancing just over the stone wall. The next day, it was placed in reserve for the brigade near the copse of trees. During Pickett's Charge, its position served as a rallying point for the left wing of the 71st and two companies of the 106th Pennsylvania, which had been driven back. Despite Brigadier General Alexander S. Webb's best efforts, these troops refused to



**69th Pennsylvania Infantry
(Company Position Markers)**

10 Markers designate the position of each company (A-I, K) at the wall to prevent the Confederates from breaking the Union line during "Pickett's Charge".



**72nd Pennsylvania Infantry
"3rd California Regiment
Baxter's Fire Zouaves"**

Second Corps - USA
Second Division - Second Brigade
Colonel DeWitt C. Baxter (W)
Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Heiser
(Hesser)

Engaged: 380 Casualties: 192
Dedicated: August 1883



California Brigade - 5th California Regiment (106th Pennsylvania Infantry)

The regiment was recruited from Philadelphia between August and October 1861, with the exception of company K, which was transferred from the 27th Pennsylvania Infantry. Turner G. Morehead was selected colonel of the unit, with William L. Curry as lieutenant colonel and John H. Stover as major. It moved to Poolesville, Maryland, where it became part of Edward D. Baker's "California Brigade." The 106th saw its first action at the Battle of Ball's Bluff, on October 21, 1861.

It was next transferred to the II Corps of the Army of the Potomac. With the rest of George B. McClellan's army, it fought in the Peninsula Campaign. On June 10, Lieutenant Colonel Curry was captured while visiting the picket line. During the Seven Days Battles, the regiment fought at the battles of Savage's Station, Charles City Cross Roads, and Malvern Hill.

Along with the Army of the Potomac, the 106th was transferred to Washington, D.C., too late to participate in the Second Battle of Bull Run. It did fight at the Battle of Antietam, where it was rushed with the rest of the 2nd Division to the aid of Joseph Hooker's corps in the West Woods. However, division commander John Sedgwick hastened into the fight without taking time to make an adequate reconnaissance. As a result, the division was attacked from three sides and forced to withdraw. The 106th lost one-third of its strength in this battle.

On July 3, 1863, the third day of fighting at Gettysburg, Companies A and B were sent as skirmishers to the Bliss Farm in front of Cemetery Ridge.



**106th Pennsylvania Infantry
"5th California Regiment"**

Second Corps - USA
Second Division - Second Brigade
Lieutenant Colonel William L. Curry
Engaged: 280 Casualties: 64
Dedicated: September 1889



106th Pennsylvania Infantry
Left and Right Flank Markers



Stockton's Rocks

Sergeant William Stockton and several of his comrades were caught in front of the stone wall by the advancing Virginians. They were held behind the ledge of large rocks until they could have been taken back to the Confederate lines. These men were caught in a cross fire from both the Union and Confederates as the fighting went on around them. In a position to be killed by either side, Stockton saw a chance to escape with his men over the rocks and back into the Union line, as the advance of Pennsylvanians began driving the Virginians back from the wall.



**Second Brigade
"California Brigade"
"Philadelphia Brigade"**

Second Corps - USA
Second Division

Brigadier General Joshua T. Owen
(Arrested)

Brigadier General Alexander S. Webb
69th, 71st, 72nd, 106th Pennsylvania

Engaged: 1224 Casualties: 491
Erected: 1912

Daniel Landsman,
Battlefield Trust
Wikipedia
Don Wiles, Photos

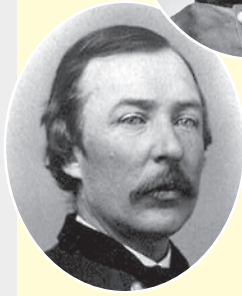
by Francis A. Lord
CWTI, October 1969



**Careless handling of a
shell at Fort Macon**

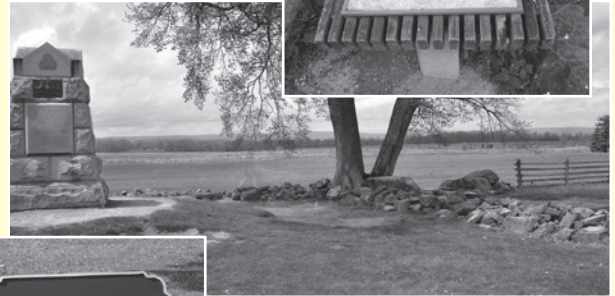


**Brigadier General
Alexander Stewart Webb**



**Brigadier General
Joshua Thomas Owen
(Arrested)**

He was arrested June 25 for unknown reasons. He was restored to command after Gettysburg and was again rearrested for cowardice and discharged.



**California Vets at the "Angle"
in a 1913 Reunion**



And watch for a visit from "Old Baldy"...

Killed... not in action

Students of the Civil War are well aware that many thousands of soldiers in both armies were killed in action, but under what circumstances will never be known until the Day of Judgment. Many others were killed—not on the firing line—but whose fate is known. Although there is an almost limitless list of different circumstances under which soldiers were killed, other than by enemy action, I will discuss three main situations. In giving the following authenticated examples, it should be emphasized that the number of unreported deaths by these three main causes must have greatly outnumbered the few given here. And even these few were arrived at after a very exhaustive study of extant records, especially memoirs and regimental histories.

Type 1: Death through carelessness

An amazingly large number of Civil War soldiers were killed by sheer carelessness or outright stupidity. The following examples illustrate some of the ways in which accidents occurred.

In the 125th New York Infantry an accident occurred as a result of the careless use of firearms. One evening Private Michael Larkins of Company I, assigned to campguard, was sent to escort a prisoner. Private William Alexander (also a member of the regiment), to his quarters for supper. Alexander commenced to play with Larkins who, in a joking manner, supposing the piece unloaded—believing it his own—took aim and pulled the trigger. Unfortunately it was loaded. The ball penetrated Alexander's head and brain and, passing out at the upper lip, glanced across the street and lodged in the fleshy part of the leg of Isaac Wager of Company A. Larkins said his piece had not been loaded and he supposed he had it with him. But he had mistakenly picked up a loaded musket belonging to another member of the guard.

In August 1862, a member of the 117th New York Infantry was wounded in the neck by a bullet from a revolver in the hands of a careless comrade. The wounded man was taken to Seminary Hospital at Georgetown, D.C., where he

remained several weeks. He deemed himself lucky to return to duty, for the bullet had passed near the jugular vein.

On April 15, 1862 several men of the 3d Rhode Island Artillery were emptying unexploded shells at Fort Pulaski. One of them tapped a shell on a granite traverse. It exploded, killing two men, mortally wounding two others, and maiming a fifth.

On June 1, 1864 three "torpedoes" or sea mines, constructed from pork barrels and each containing 200 pounds of powder were sent by rail to Bachelor's Creek, North Carolina in charge of Lieutenant Jones, 132d New York Infantry. These mines were to be placed in the Neuse River as a protection against enemy ironclads. Desiring to speak to the regimental commander, the lieutenant left the mines without informing anyone as to what they were. The quartermaster sergeant of the regiment commenced unloading the cars, and reaching the mines he rolled the first one to the platform, assuming it was a barrel of pork. His assistants grasped the other two and rolled them off. As the second mine struck the one on the platform, it broke the hair spring within—exploding all three, with a boom heard twenty miles away. Thirty men of the 132d New York were killed and seventeen wounded. Some of the 158th New York were also killed or maimed, and ten civilians were killed and twenty-three wounded. All that was found of the quartermaster sergeant was his little finger, identified by his ring. The remains of the dead were scraped together in small pieces and buried in hardtack boxes.

The 149th New York Infantry was on its way to Washington in 1862. Just after leaving Baltimore, and before the train reached full speed, an unusual accident took place. The men, not being supplied with bayonet scabbards, reversed the bayonets on the muzzles of their muskets. The sides of the

box-cars in which they were being transported were partially cut away so there were square holes through which the men could look out. One of the men carelessly let the muzzle on his gun with bayonet attached protrude through one of these openings. A car loaded with lumber, passing in the opposite direction, hit the muzzle of the gun, tore off the bayonet, and flung it through the next opening in the same car. It struck one of the men in the face, forcing out an eye and badly disfiguring him.

TYPE 2: Officers and men purposely killed by their own troops

My interest in this topic was first awakened years ago when my grandfather, a veteran of the 14th New Hampshire Infantry, told me that three men of his company stayed in Georgia after the war was over and killed their company commander whom they had grown to despise. (Among other things, this officer, while drunk, had disobeyed orders and committed the brigade to a frontal

attack against a Confederate division, with substantial loss in officers and men.)

This officer was certainly not the only one killed by his own men.

W. H. Worthington, colonel of the 5th Iowa Infantry, "a military martinet," was killed immediately after Shiloh. By some mischance he and his adjutant approached a sentinel from the direction of the enemy. Suddenly the sentinel aimed his gun from behind a tree and fired. The bullet struck the colonel in the forehead, killing him instantly. The sentinel was arrested, tried, and acquitted. "Many among us believed that the colonel had been intentionally murdered. He was one of the most competent colonels in the Army, but among his soldiers he was fearfully unpopular. More than once his life had been threatened by soldiers who regarded themselves as having been treated badly by him."

The first officer of the 125th New York Infantry to fall in battle was Captain John Quay. "Universally beloved," nevertheless it was generally believed that he was shot by one of his own men. His coat was burned with powder where the ball entered his body. The regimental historian was "sorry to entertain such an opinion, but it had some basis, not only in the appearance of his coat, but in the lamentable fact that in the excitement of the charge some of the men of another regiment in the brigade fired wildly, without regard to the



Shot by his own men on picket guard

men of the 125th."

Occasionally, an officer survived threats to his life by gallantry in battle. Colonel Ranald S. Mackenzie assumed command of the 2d Connecticut Heavy Artillery when 300 of the regiment had fallen. The officers could not have presented a more draggled, tattered, unwashed, unshaven, unkempt, unofficer-like appearance; and the men looked no worse than the officers, simply because it was impossible. "By the time we reached the Shenandoah Valley, Mackenzie was a far greater terror, to both officers and men, than Early's grape and canister. As though the forced marches of that campaign could not kill off the men fast enough, he always supplemented them with a 'hail march' of an hour or two after halting. He was a perpetual punisher. There is a regimental tradition that a well-defined purpose existed among the men, prior to the battle of Winchester, to dispose of this scourge during the first fight that occurred. But the purpose, if any existed, quailed and failed before his audacious pluck on that bloody day." The men hated him bitterly, but they could not draw bead on so brave a man. Thenceforth they firmly believed that he bore a charmed life.

To be continued in September Issue

GAR Museum and Library in New Location

We are very pleased to announce that the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Archive has completed its move to our new historically certified place, the Lewis-Pattison House, 8110 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19136.

The Museum will be open on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We are excited to now be able to welcome visitors to tour our exhibits and utilize our extensive archives for historical and genealogical research. Our exhibits have been revitalized and designed to tell the personal story of the men and women who served our country during the Civil War. Our exhibits focus on the personal memorabilia of the veterans, highlighting those with personal ties to the city of Philadelphia and the region.

While we encourage your visit, please be aware that we are staffed solely by volunteers. Our current volunteer staffing can accommodate a visit by appointment other than our Tuesday hours.

To make an appointment, email us at garmuslib1866@gmail.com

To arrange a guide for your visit, we will need seven-days' notice, and we will confirm the date(s) after we recruit volunteer(s).

There is no admission fee to tour our Museum or to do research in the archives. However, we ask that you consider a donation. It is only through your financial support that our historic collection can continue to be made available to students and the public.

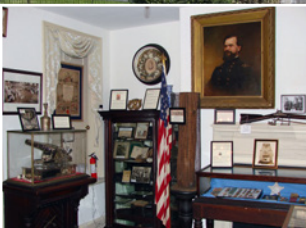
In your e-mail, please provide the following:

1. The nature of the visit – tour and/or research
2. Requested date and arrival time
3. Number of participants
4. Name, telephone number and e-mail address of the lead person

Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

This the first step in a planned expansion of our operating hours and your cooperation is appreciated.

We will follow the City of Philadelphia's Covid-19 prevention strategies at the time of your visit.



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”**

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

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2022

September 9, 2022 - Thursday

Elizabeth Leonard
"Benjamin Franklin Butler:
A Noisy, Fearless Life"

October 13, 2022 - Thursday
Jim Remsen and Brad Upp

"Back From Battle: The Forgotten Story
of Pennsylvania's Camp Discharge
and the Weary Civil War Soldiers It Served"

November 10, 2022 - Thursday
Chuck Veit

"A Lively Little Battle: New Perspectives on the
Battle of Fort Butler, Donaldsonville, LA,
28 June 1863".

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
Dave Gilson - 856-323-6484 - dgilson404@gmail.com.

Old Baldy CWRT Membership Help Positions

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

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

Camden County College
William G. Rohrer Center
1889 Marlton Pike East
Cherry Hill, NJ
oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Founded January 1977

President: Richard Jankowski

Vice President: Kathy Clark

Treasurer: Frank Barletta

Secretary: Sean Glisson

Programs: Dave Gilson

Membership: Amy and Dan Hummel

Trustees:

Paul Prentiss

Tom Scurria

Dave Gilson

Editor: Don Wiles - cwwiles@comcast.net