

# Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

March 14, 2024

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

## “Soldier of Destiny: Slavery, Secession, and the Redemption of Ulysses S. Grant”



by John Reeves

Soldier of Destiny is about the rise of Ulysses S. Grant. Captain Ulysses S. Grant, an obscure army officer who was expelled for alcohol abuse in 1854, rose to become general-in-chief of the United States Army in 1864. What accounts for this astonishing turn-around during this extraordinary decade? Was it destiny? Or was he just an ordinary man, opportunistically benefiting from the turmoil of the Civil War to advance to the highest military rank?

Soldier of Destiny reveals that Grant always possessed the latent abilities of a skilled commander—and he was able to develop these skills out West without the overwhelming pressure faced by more senior commanders in the Eastern theater at the beginning of the Civil War. Grant was a true Westerner himself and it was his experience in the West—before and during the Civil War—that was central to his rise.

John Reeves is the author of *A Fire in the Wilderness* and *The Lost Indictment of Robert E. Lee*. He has taught European and American history at Lehman College, Bronx Community College, and Southbank University in London. John received an MA in European History from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. You can learn more about him at [john-reeves.com](http://john-reeves.com). He lives near Washington, DC.

### Meeting Notice

Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, March 14, at Camden County College William G. Rohrer Center 1889 Marlton Pike East Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

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](mailto:oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net) at least 24 hours prior to request Zoom access.

## Notes from the President

Welcome to March, *Women's History Month*, as we await the return of Spring, Baseball season and **Mike and Debbie DiPaolo**. **Dave Gilson** has some great programs schedule and there will be opportunities to network in the communities to share the Old Baldy message. Thank you to everyone who has paid their 2024 dues to fund our programs and projects for the year. If you have not, see **Frank** to take care of it. Thanks to the members who volunteered to serve as judges at *New Jersey History Day at Rutgers Camden*. Watch for the release of the process documents so you can choose one and get involved aiding our round table to move forward.

Last month **Drew Gruber** entertained the round table with the tale of *Decimus Et Ultimus Barziza*. He also provided an update on our sign at Williamsburg and said everything is moving forward for the May 5 event. This month **John Reeves** will visit us on Zoom to share stories from his book *Soldier of Destiny* about the rise of Ulysses S. Grant. Be sure to join us or tune in for this presentation about a great Civil War leader. Read **Walt Lafty's** profile and see Flat Old Baldy welcome new members in this newsletter.



Dr. Rich Jankowski  
President, OBCWRT

President's Notes Page 1  
Member Profile Page 2  
Williamsburg Update Page 3  
Picnic Notification Page 4  
Treasure's Reminder Page 4  
Today in Civil War History Page 4  
White Roses Page 5  
A Heart Felt Tribute 6  
Life Aboard a Gunboat Page 9  
January Meeting Page 12  
February Meeting Page 13  
Civil War Model Railroad Page 14  
OBCWRT Members Recognized Page 15  
Events Pages 16 - 18  
Meade Series Page 16  
CENFAD Conference Page 16  
Lighthouses of NJ Page 16  
GAR Luncheon Page 17  
Island CWRT Page 17  
Williamsburg Trip Page 17  
New Members Page 18  
Flat Old Baldy Member Photos Page 18  
OBCWRT Upcoming Events Page 18  
Meeting/Speaker Schedule Page 18

## OBCWRT Awards

The Society For Women  
and the Civil War  
for Service to the Society  
presented to OBCWRT

Civil War Roundtable Congress  
The Wallace L. Rueckel  
Innovation Award  
presented to OBCWRT (2022)

American Battlefield Trust  
for 25 Year Service to the Trust  
presented to OBCWRT

Civil War Roundtable Congress  
Sustainability Challenge  
presented to OBCWRT  
(2023)

Kevin M. Hale Award  
for best Historical  
Newsletter in New Jersey  
(2017, 2022)



Walt Lafty

by Kim Weaver  
Member, OBCWRT

Continued from page 1 - "President's Notes"

If you have not reserved your seat on the bus for the trip to Williamsburg for the Civil War Trails sign on May 5th, get your deposit to Frank soon. Planning is starting for our *50th anniversary celebration* in 2027, let us know how we should commemorate the milestone. **Jim Countryman** is planning a lecture series for the Fall with Camden County College, watch for the details soon. The **Cavanagh Book Award** team is starting their review process, look for updates soon. Be sure to read **Randy Acorcey's** article on the visit to see Civil War train display at the home of member **Thom Radice**. Write your own article on an adventure you have had and share it with the membership in a future newsletter.

There are several upcoming events in the next month, look for details in this newsletter. Save the date for the picnic on May 18th. Check out the IE CWRT offerings this month. The third session of the *Winter of Meade Lecture Series* with NJCWRT will be on March 28th. **John Zinn** will present "*A Cradle of the National Pastime: New Jersey Baseball 1855 to 1880*" at the Rohrer Center at 7 PM on April 16th. Arrive for the next meeting early to view the exhibit on Negro Baseball in the hallways of the Rohrer Center. If you miss a *Member Profile* in the newsletter, they are posted on our website under the About Us tab. Pick up Old Baldy reuseable blue bags and a copy of the South Jersey Civil War sites map at the next meeting. Copies of the new rack cards and flyers are also available for you to distribute.

Have a happy and safe St. Patrick's Day weekend.

Join us at the Kettle and Grill at 5:30 for a pre-meeting meal

**Dr. Rich Jankowski, President**

## Member Profile - Walt Lafty Jr.

If it is true that a man is known by the company he keeps, then it is fair to say that Walt Lafty Jr. is a man worthy of imitation.

Walt was born in 1951 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and he was also raised there. Growing up during the post-World War II boom, Walt especially remembers Sunday mornings; the aromas of breakfast cooking and his live-in grandfather's smoking pipe. He also recalls a beginning interest in one day joining the U.S. military. Of course, which branch to serve needed some thinking over. When it came time to sign, Walt went with the oldest. "I enlisted in the Army at age 17 with my parents' written permission." He soon was assigned to military intelligence (insists he was just an errand boy carrying classified information) and served from 1968-1971, with one year (1969-70) in Vietnam. Ask Walt who he most admires and to his mind comes a brash Navy pilot, the late Senator John McCain who spent over five years in captivity after his A-4 Skyhawk was shot down over Hanoi in 1967. "I admire him for his courage to refuse early release as a POW in North Vietnam. Despite torture and living through that despairing situation, he did not allow the enemy to use him for political purposes. By refusing to accept special favors, he honored the military code of conduct, something that took immense courage under dire circumstances."

In 1975, living stateside, Walt became a professional Philadelphia firefighter. Although his work schedule was demanding, he managed to earn a B.A. in Psychology from Holy Family University after eight years of part-time courses. In 1999 Walt retired from firefighting and accepted a position with the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board's Bureau of Alcohol Education. In 2016 he retired (this time for good) as a supervisor from the PLCB.

Retirement has allowed Walt more time to indulge his long-time passions of reading, researching, and writing history, American Civil War and Irish. It was around 25 years ago when Walt uncovered three direct ancestors (one with the 9th NJ) who served in the Civil War that he became deeply invested in Civil War history. One of those ancestors had come from Ireland and, well, Walt had more research to do. "That interest had my brother, Bill, and I traveling to Ireland in 2013 to visit the towns of our ancestors on both sides of my family. We spent all of our time in Northern Ireland, mostly in

Counties Derry and Antrim. The people were beyond friendly and helpful."

Once Walt got a handle on the Civil War as a whole, he narrowed areas to study such as medicine and hospitals, the various roles of women, the U.S.C.T., the influence of the railroads, and literary people like Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, and Ellen Frances Watkins Harper. He has written over 50 articles and/or conducted programs on some of those topics.

Over the years Walt has been active in many Civil War groups, including Old Baldy CWRT (7 year member), Delaware Valley CWRT (board member), Baker-Fish Camp 101 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (camp secretary), and the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Museum, Library, and Archives (research administrator).

Walt still lives in Philadelphia and has been married to his wife Robin for 50 years. They have three daughters, one stepchild (deceased), 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild who is two-years old.

**The next time you run into Walt, invite him to lunch, thank him for his service and his family's sacrifice, and then ask him to tell you an old (and bad) Henny Youngman joke.**

**Company H, 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry. Of the men pictured, two were killed or wounded here during the battle and only two would survive the war unscathed.**



## Williamsburg Update - 5



By Frank Barletta,  
Treasurer, OBCWRT

We were very fortunate to have Drew Gruber as our speaker last month. After months of drafting, rewriting, and rereading by focus groups and historians, he was able to share with us the final wording of our Williamsburg Civil War Trail sign. As Drew read out loud, a video played showing photos and maps overlaid with the text. A special thank you goes to Paul Prentiss for the production of the video.

Now then, I would like to show you the proposed sign. **"THE JERSEY BOYS"**

# THE JERSEY BOYS

★★★

*"Not soldiers but bulldogs"*

1862 PENINSULA CAMPAIGN

**I**n the ravine before you, three New Jersey regiments experienced their bloodiest day of the Civil War, losing more men in this battle than any other.

On the mid-morning of May 5, 1862, the soldiers of the four regiments in the New Jersey brigade turned off the old Hampton Road in a driving rain and pushed through where you stand toward the ravine (where the landscape drops down). They were rushing to reinforce other Union regiments that were out of ammunition and falling back.

Gen. Francis Patterson ordered three of his four regiments forward, leaving the 5th New Jersey just behind you to support artillery pieces. As shot and shell flew overhead, the other three regiments plunged into the tangled undergrowth, slipping and sliding into a hail of Confederate musketry.

The ravine echoed with the sounds of gory hand-to-hand fighting, with troops mistaking friend for foe. The men from the 6th, 7th, and 8th regiments were outnumbered. Gen. Patterson recalled "a heavy fire in front ... was spreading around our left flank." Exhausted, out of ammunition, and facing a dozen Confederate regiments, the Jerseys were forced back in this direction.

The Union artillerymen positioned behind you held their fire until the oncoming Confederates got closer. That, and the timely arrival of fresh Union soldiers commanded by Gen. Philip Kearny pushed the Confederates back.

That night, the Confederate army quietly abandoned Williamsburg, retreating towards Richmond.

To learn more about the battle visit the other Civil War Trails sites.

As Confederate reinforcements poured into the ravine, Union Gen. Joseph Hooker commented that the New Jersey men were "whipped three times but did not know it. (They) are not soldiers but bulldogs."

Company H, 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry. Of the men pictured, two were killed or wounded here during the battle and only two would survive the war unscathed. Courtesy Library of Congress

Picture yourself as a visitor reading the sign for the first time. Not only is it meant to be informative, it also is intended to be very directional and put you in the middle of the battle: "where you stand toward the ravine"; "forced back in this direction"; "position behind you held their fire". The photo of Company H of the 7th New Jersey brings home the reason we sponsored this sign: to acknowledge the valor and sacrifice of the "Jersey Boys" and bring credit to our state.

See updated Flyer at the end of Newsletter.

## Picnic: Save the Date... Saturday May 18



Old Baldy's 172nd birthday. We are looking for a member to host the party but don't worry – you will have plenty of help. We will briefly discuss general picnic plans at the next meeting.

Again - please join us on Saturday May 18th to celebrate Old Baldy's Birthday with family and friends. Please contact Paul Prentiss at [pprentissfamily@gmail.com](mailto:pprentissfamily@gmail.com), 865-745-8336 if you could host the picnic in your backyard.

## Reminder from the Treasurer's Desk

The 2024 Membership Dues are now being collected. Dues remain the same,

\$25.00 Individual Membership and \$35.00 Family Membership.  
\$15.00 additional for requested printed copy of Newsletter, to offset postage.

Remember they can now be paid online. Just visit our Web Page, click on, "**Membership**" on the top bar, which will take you to the next page. Choose a method of payment, visa, etc., and click on "**Buy Now**". This will take you to the submission page, complete form and click on, "**Pay Now**". Done

As always, if you prefer to pay by check, they can be given to me at any meeting or sent to my home at:

44 Morning Glory Drive, Marlton, NJ, 08053.

Should you have any questions,  
please contact me at

856-334-5856 or [frank.barletta@comcast.net](mailto:frank.barletta@comcast.net).

## Today in Civil War History

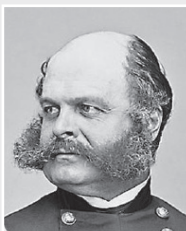
1862 Friday, March 14

### **Eastern Theater**

Burnside attacks and takes New Bern with 11,000 men, driving Confederate General Branch's larger army from the town. Union casualties are reported as 91 dead and 466 wounded. Confederate losses include 64 killed, 106 wounded, and 413 captured.

### **Trans-Mississippi**

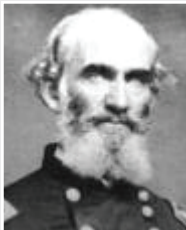
General Pope takes New Madrid, Missouri, thus opening the way for an attack on the Confederate-held Island Number 10 in the Mississippi. Possession of this strategic position is the key to the control of the whole of eastern Tennessee.



Major General, USA  
Ambrose Everett Burnside



**Admiral, USA**  
**David Glasgow Farragut**



**Brigadier General, USA**  
**Andrew Jackson Smith**

## 1863 Sunday, March 14

### **Eastern Theater**

Admiral Farragut attempts to run the Confederate batteries at Port Hudson during the night. His advance betrayed by a small steamer, the squadron comes under a ferocious barrage. The Confederates fire piles of pine-knots on the right bank of the river, silhouetting the Federal warships for the rebel gunners. Farragut's flagship Hartford and Albatross succeed in making the passage, but Richmond, Monongahela, Genesee, and Kineo are compelled to withdraw. The Mississippi passes the lower batteries, running at high speed despite the four-knot current. Unfortunately, she strikes the spit opposite Port Hudson and goes hard aground.

## 1864 Sunday, March 14

### **Trans-Mississippi Theater**

Commanded by Brigadier General A. J. Smith, the three Federal divisions overrun Fort De Russy near Simsport. The Confederate defenders, Walker's division commanded by General Richard Taylor, fall back on Bayou Boeuf, covering Alexandria, Louisiana. The assault on Fort De Russy costs 34 Union casualties but results in the capture of eight heavy guns, two field pieces, and 260 prisoners. Meanwhile, Porter's fleet breaks through the dam nine miles downstream and steams toward Alexandria.

## 1865 Tuesday, March 14

### **Eastern Theater**

Cox's Federal Army occupies Kinston, North Carolina, while Sherman's advance guard skirmishes along the Black River. His troops at Fayetteville cross the Cape Fear River. Sheridan's cavalry have continued their advance and now skirmish at the South Anna Bridge as they move to join Grant's army.

## "Those White Roses"

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



**Dr. Nancy Maria Hill**

**Nancy Maria Hill**, daughter of William and Harriet (Swan) Hill, was born in West Cambridge (now Arlington and Belmont), Mass. Her forefathers were in the battles of Lexington, West Cambridge, and Bunker Hill. She was educated in the public schools at West Cambridge, and at Mount Holyoke Seminary, South Hadley, Mass.

There was a great call for educated women to go as nurses, during the War of the Rebellion, in the hospitals at Washington. Ladies from Cambridge, Boston, and other places offered their services at Armory Square Hospital, under Dr. Bliss, who was surgeon in charge. These ladies were specially appointed by Surgeon General Barnes.

There was a vacancy in, Ward F in this hospital, and Miss Hill was summoned. She went in April, 1863, and remained until August, 1865, after the close of the war.

The pay of the volunteer nurses was to go into a hospital fund, to buy extras for the soldiers, which Government did not provide.

Armory Square Hospital was a barrack hospital of eleven buildings, besides tents for the convalescents, capable of holding a thousand men. Each lady had charge of a ward under a doctor. There were fifty two beds in each ward, but often extra cots were added. This hospital was nearest the boat-landing and the railroad depot, and received the worst cases. They were often brought all the way from the boat on stretchers, as they could not stand the jar of the ambulances.

When the battles of the Wilderness were going on, all hospital supplies and



**Aromery Square Hospital**



**Ward**



**Ward Buildings**

sanitary stores had been sent to the front, and there were none in Washington. Miss Hill wrote to her mother about it, and she had the letter read next morning in the four churches in Arlington. Immediately the congregations were dismissed, and all went home, to return to the Town Hall bringing table-cloths, and linen, and cotton sheets, - the best they had. The ladies and gentlemen worked all day long making and rolling bandages and picking lint. Before nine o'clock that night two large dry-goods boxes, the size of an upright piano, were on their way to Washington by Adams Express, who took them free of charge.

The Soldiers' Aid Societies of both Arlington and Belmont were very generous in their contributions. As fast as they sent boxes away, they began to fill others to send, - and so it was with all the volunteer nurses; friends at the North sent bountiful supplies of whatever was needed.

After General Grant took command of the Army of the Potomac, the hospitals were crowded with severely wounded men. He followed up the foe so fast it was blow upon blow. Every day the wounded came, and every day men who could be moved with safety, were sent to Baltimore or Philadelphia, to make room for others. It was a common thing to count forty amputation cases at a time, when looking up and down the ward that summer, and so it continued until the end of the war.

After the hospital closed, Dr. Bliss advised Miss Hill to study medicine.

Acting on this suggestion she began reading under Dr. Marie Zakryewska, the Alma Mater of all lady physicians of Boston and vicinity. Afterwards she became a medical student at the New England Hospital for Women and Children, at Roxbury, Mass. She was graduated at the medical department of the Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, in the year 1874. She then came to Dubuque, Iowa, and opened an office, and has been in active practice of medicine ever since.

#### *Foot Note*

Hill established the Women's Rescue Society of Dubuque in 1896 to provide shelter and support for unwed mothers and their babies.

She graduated in 1874, at the age of 41, becoming one of the first female physicians in the United States. Shortly afterwards, she moved to Dubuque, Iowa, where she would practice medicine for 36 years. She specialized in obstetrics and once noted, "I was never a mother but brought about 1000 children into this world."

Hill established the Women's Rescue Society of Dubuque in 1896 to provide shelter and support for unwed mothers and their babies. She was involved in the organization until 1909 when she was forced to close the residential facility as a result of financial problems and her own advanced age. The facility was reopened by Anna Blanche Cook in 1914 as the Hillcrest Deaconess Home and Baby Fold and is now called Hillcrest Family Services. Hill died in 1919 and was buried in Linwood Cemetery in Dubuque.

Seventy years after her death, Hill was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 1989.

## ***A Heartfelt Tribute of Parental Affection***

**by Joseph F. Wilson  
Member, OBCWRT**

*On a recent trip to give an Andersonville Prison presentation to the Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Roundtable I stumbled across an old cemetery which led to the following story:*

Behind an old iron gate shrouded in overgrown shrubs, a seemingly forgotten and hidden Pittsburgh cemetery holds a loving tribute from heartbroken parents for their precious son, Private Richard Morrow, whose death in the Civil War can still stir emotions even today in strangers who stumble upon the

### Morrow Memorial



heartfelt and impressive five foot granite tombstone.

Adorned with crossed muskets, the bust of a Union soldier, and an emotional inscription, the stone standing in the Pine Creek Cemetery bears witness to the immense love a mother and father had for their son. But Richard Morrow's body doesn't rest beneath the marker. Richard Morrow's parents never knew the final resting place of their boy soldier. Maybe it's best they didn't. The insensitive disposal of his bones wouldn't have met with their approval.

Like so many parents, Richard Sr. and Mary Morrow watched their son march off to war and simply vanish, never to be seen or heard from again. Richard was the youngest of nine children and only 16 years old when he enlisted in 1862. Like many families up north, the Morrow family never received any information as to where they could retrieve the body for a proper burial back home. So a memorial sitting atop an empty grave in the overlooked cemetery had to suffice. No visitations or placing of flowers where he rested in peace for all eternity was possible. Their baby boy was lost forever.

On the back of the touching memorial the stone reads, "This stone is a tribute of parental affection in memory of Richard Morrow Jr. a member of Co, D, 139th P. V. son of Richard and Mary Morrow, who nobly defended his country's cause, was wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness, Va., on the 5th and died in the field hospital on the 6th of May, 1864, age 18 years, 7 months, and 9 days, being buried by strangers, the precise place of his grave is unknown."

The obscure Pine Creek Cemetery remains well secreted behind a Quality Inn in Gibsonia, Pa. Being off the beaten path, not many visitors get to appreciate the sentiment emanating from Richard's memorial. Like all early cemeteries, a church stood alongside of the graveyard. The old church is long gone, with only the concealed cemetery surviving. Established in the early 1800's on the outskirts of Pittsburgh, the grounds were the first site of the Pine Creek Congregation of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

### Entrance Pine Creek Cemetery



A recent stay in one of the back rooms of the Quality Inn introduced me to the Pine Creek Cemetery. Gazing out the window from my room, I happened to notice what seemed to be a few tombstones peeking through the thicket of bushes. A closer look revealed the old boneyard. Being an enthusiast of older cemeteries, I wandered over and swung open the well-worn ornamental gate for a thorough exploration. Richard Morrow's memorial immediately caught my eye.

Richard Morrow enlisted in the 139th Pa. Volunteers on September 1, 1862, at the tender age of sixteen. On his first assignment, burying the dead from the Second Battle of Bull Run introduced the boy to the horrors of war. Little did the new enlistee know that a shovel would break ground two years later for the disposal of his own carcass in an unknown grave marked only by a wooden stake.

But that wasn't the final depository of Richard's remains. A single soldier's grave, although unknown, at least had a decent burial. Many soldiers repose under a stone with the familiar "Unknown" carved into the headstone. Morrow's eventual resting place is worse. The final discarding of his earthly form reflect the disrespect shown to so many deceased volunteers in Father Abraham's army.

The 139th Pa. served in General Frank Wheaton's Brigade, General George Getty's Division, as part of the 6th Corps. On May, 5, 1864, at the Battle of the Wilderness, the division was detached from the 6th Corps to fight with Hancock's 2nd Corps along the Orange Plank Road. General Wheaton's Brigade, including the 139th NY, stood directly in the path of General A. P. Hill's Confederate Corps as they advanced on the Orange Plank Road.

Richard was certainly mortally wounded in the vicious fighting on the Orange Plank Road on May 5 and died the next day in a field hospital. Since the 139th fought with Hancock's 2nd Corps, the wounded Morrow would have been carried to the nearest field hospital, which was the 2nd Corps hospital site on the nearby Carpenter Farm. Overwhelmed surgeons there had scores of bloody wounded soldiers to treat. In the chaotic atmosphere swirling on the battlefield, identifying all the wounded soldier's being carried to the hospital wasn't possible.

Chief Surgeon Thomas A. McParlin noted, "the influx of patients was so rapid and their numbers so great, that it was not possible to record all of them." According to information given by his family on his memorial, he was "buried by strangers." Those strangers would have been soldiers assigned to the field hospital as attendants. Being only a private, the grave was likely hastily dug, not very deep, and marked only by a tree branch. At that point, any hope of recovering Richard's body vanished for his family and most of the families of the 2,246 other dead Union soldiers who perished at the Battle of the Wilderness.

Sadly, both governments lacked any plan for identifying or properly taking care of their dead. As a result of the poor planning, nearly half of all Union soldiers in the 73 Civil War National Cemeteries established around the country are "Known but to God." Private Richard Morrow is one of many Union soldiers who went into the earth with only a wood stake denoting a dead Yankee.

General U.S. Grant and the army quickly moved on to Spotsylvania. Fast moving armies had little time to bury the many bodies scattered about the countryside after a horrific battle. Grant revealed his true feelings on caring for the battlefield dead when he harshly stated, "the business of Generals is with the living." It would be thirteen months before any actions in caring for the dead on the Wilderness Battlefield took place.

Union burial details returned in June of 1865 to bury the dead in temporary cemeteries on the battlefield. Not all soldiers went into the ground after the battle. By 1865, any marker capable of identifying a body above ground or below ground had long been disintegrated. Any bones found above ground were gathered up and callously deposited in wooden boxes all mixed-up together with anywhere from 5 to 10 soldier's bones in a single coffin. Those boxes were buried in Wilderness Cemetery #1 and Cemetery #2. Already buried soldiers, like Richard, received a new board stating "Unknown Soldier."

The Wilderness grave yards #1 and #2 would cease to exist a year later. In 1866, the federal government again sent troops to dig up the bones previously buried in 1865, as well as those soldiers buried after the battle, for removal to the newly designated Fredericksburg National Cemetery. All the dead from battles in the area including Spotsylvania, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness, and Fredericksburg, went into the ground at the new Fredericksburg Cemetery.

In the second trip in 1866, when all the remains were dug up and reinterred in the Fredericksburg National Cemetery, Private Richard Morrow's dug up bones would have been jumbled together with a pile of other soldier's bones in a single coffin and buried in the Fredericksburg Cemetery under a small square ordinary stone detailing how many actually supposedly fill that particular box. No soldier's remains rest intact as the Lord had created them. Had Richard's family known of the method, it's likely they would have found it a distasteful and repugnant manner for a cherished loved one to rest for all eternity.

When collecting the bones, Lieutenant William Landon of the 1st United States Veteran Volunteers commented on the process, "Ten skulls were placed in each coffin, which was then filled with bones. The lid was screwed on and lowered into their final resting place, unknown, but not unhonored." Richard Morrow's family and the families of other soldiers, whose bones were indifferently consigned into a single box with a mix of other bones, might question Landon's sentiment suggesting any kind of honor.

The total number of soldiers buried in Fredericksburg came to 15,243, with an astonishing 13,000 of those cadavers being unknown. The disordered bones dumped into a single pine coffin dominate the grounds at the Fredericksburg Cemetery. No gun salutes or prayers rented the air for these boys. To install individual markers for each soldier would have required a much larger cemetery. Convenience ruled the day for Civil War dead. Even with more acreage, bones arriving at the cemetery all tangled together in one box would have made single graves impossible.



54

**Carpenter Farm  
2nd Corp Hospital Site**



**Fredericksburg  
Cemetery Marker**



Richard Morrow and many soldiers earned little adoration once their military effectiveness came to an end. Little effort was expended in caring for the lowest ranking Civil War soldier whose cadaver got treatment on par with roadkill. Bone collectors often preceded the army in gathering up bleached bones for sale as fertilizer. Fresh fruits and vegetables sprouted from the pulverized bones of dead soldiers. When able to assign a burial detail, the quick work usually meant only a foot of dirt covered the remains. Hogs had little trouble uncovering the bodies for their next meal.

According to the inscription carved on the Pine Creek stone by Richard's parents, they believed, "the precise place of his grave is unknown." With all the bones collected in the post war effort around the Wilderness Battlefield, it's a sure bet that their boy's bones are resting in the Fredericksburg National Cemetery cluttered with a heap of other bones in one non-descript pine box.

Donald Pfanz, a Fredericksburg historian, has a good idea of the general location in the cemetery that holds Private Morrow's remains. He states, "Union soldiers who fell in the Wilderness, but who were buried on the field, rather than in one of the two Wilderness National Cemeteries, are buried primarily on the lower five terraces of Fredericksburg National Cemetery or on the plateau, especially in Division B, Section C, which lies adjacent to the north wall of the cemetery to your right as you are facing the Humphrey's monument and about halfway back. They too are buried almost exclusively in groups of five."

Surely, sorrow touched the Morrow family in losing their youngest child. Not knowing his final resting place must have caused even more grief. But pride in their youngest son's patriotism speaks loudly on Richard's memorial in the Pine Creek Cemetery for all to behold in years to come. In the end, maybe all the Morrow's needed to know was that their youngest son perished on May 6, 1864, while he "nobly defended his country's cause" at the Battle of the Wilderness. **And hopefully, that was enough for them!**

*Joseph F. Wilson is a member of Old Baldy CWRT and The General Meade Society. The writer lectures on Civil War topics and is the writer and producer of the documentary "Civil War Prisons - An American Tragedy" available on Amazon. His YouTube channel is - "Joseph F. Wilson." Contact - Joef21@aol.com*

## Life Aboard a Gunboat

By Rowland Stafford True,  
A First Person Account  
February 1971, CWTI

**The food was often rancid and the discipline stern, but duty aboard the Silver Lake was adventurous and often pleasant.**

**Continued from last Month's  
Newsletter**

But the rebels had not been idle while the battle was going on. They had unloaded the transports pressing into service the colored women on board who were employed as cooks and chambermaids so that by the time we arrived, everything was gone. The grain was scattered and destroyed, the horses and mules driven off, the last of which could be seen a mile and a half away, going as fast as legs could carry them. The Rebels had spiked their guns, so our only consolation was that we had whipped them.

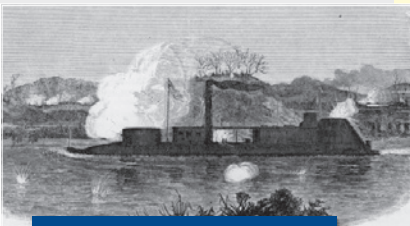
This battle occurred in the night and made a grand display of fireworks. The thundering of the mighty guns, the shells screeching through the air back and forth, from one side to the other; sometimes bursting in the air, sometimes in the water throwing the water high in the air, sometimes striking the boat beneath the water going through and bursting on the inside, which made things lively for "Chips," the ship's carpenter. The pumps were set to work to keep the boat from sinking—so there was plenty of work for everyone to do.





**Lieutenant, USA  
Rowland Stafford True**

**Rowland Stafford True was born at Meadville, Pennsylvania, on April 8, 1847, grew up there, and on August 29, 1864, enlisted at Erie, Pennsylvania, as a landsman in the United States Navy. He was sent to a camp at Evansville, Indiana, to await the arrival of the gunboat fleet with which he was to serve. His memoir, written several years after the war as a presentation to a post of the Grand Army of the Republic.**



**US Monitor "Neosho"**

We now went back to Nashville where we transported several hundred bales of cotton which had been captured from the rebels, to a place of safety. This done, we again reported for duty and were ordered to be kept at quarters —i.e. every man to his station with side arms on, ready for action. The guns were loaded with 5 sic [inch] shell ready to be run out and fired at a moment's notice. Under those orders we lay for two days and three nights, without sleep or food except at one time while the officers were in the cabin, we induced the mess cook to open the mess chest; and we each grabbed a couple of hardtack, and a slice of raw salt pork, put them together in the form of a sandwich, back to our guns to eat them ere the officers made their appearance. The last night of the three we were allowed to lie down by our guns, except one man to each gun as sentry—and thus we slept, each man taking his watch in turn. Towards morning the alarm came, with orders to fire on the enemy. One gun was fired on the port—but without waking me. I had for my pillow the trunnion of the gun beside me, and only did awake when the gun was trained around so the wheel of the carriage rolled on to my cap and hair, holding me fast, while my shipmates were kicking my side and calling me to get up. We were soon in working order, sending the shells in among the rebels thick and fast, when the order came to cease firing. The rebels had fled. They had expected to find us napping but had found us at home and ready to receive callers.

Once at a lonely place where the woods were thick, a man dressed in citizen's clothes hailed us and beckoned us to stop. At first we paid no attention, but he seemed to be in trouble about something so the captain ordered a stop to see what he wanted. He excitedly told his story. A band of rebels were encamped in the woods half a mile away, and were doing great damage by burning buildings, killing stock, etc. He pointed out the location of their camp and we could see the smoke rising above the timber as proof of its location.

We opened fire at once—throwing shells into the woods. About twenty rounds had been fired, when a horseman came dashing down to the river clad in blue uniform and waving the stars and stripes, shouting, "For God's sake, Captain, cease firing. You are shelling a Union camp!" An explanation followed and we looked for our informant—but he, like the Arabs, had silently stolen away. This is but one of the many tricks the Rebels served us. Our first prisoner was captured near Smithland. He was a spy and had boldly come within a stone's throw of our entire fleet, secreting himself in the house of a friend. This friend claimed to be a Union man when any Union men were about. He kept a store in his front room and sold goods to gunboatmen at exorbitant prices. Here this spy had been watching us for two days listening to all that had been said in his hearing.

He said he belonged to a company of 5,000 raiders encamped a few miles away. They might have made it very disagreeable for us, to say the least, for every boat in the fleet was tied up to the shore and had no steam up. But we got up steam in double quick time when we knew of the situation. In fifteen minutes we were moving out into the river with our prisoner, his friend, and wife, in double irons, as prisoners of war. The woman was re-released the next day and the two men soon after turned over to the land forces.

Thus the time passed away. One day lying peacefully at anchor, and the next, off on some expedition up or down the river. Up the Cumberland today, up the Tennessee tomorrow, down the Mississippi the next—here and there wherever needed. Sometimes it was necessary to convoy a lot of troops up or down the river. In such cases, the troops were put aboard transports lashed together two by two, and thus escorted to their destination by one or more gunboats. On one such occasion, we were steaming up the Tennessee on a pleasant Sunday, a.m. The frost was out of the ground and it was very muddy. We had just scrubbed decks white and clean. Inspection was over and we were enjoying the sunshine on the fore-castle when we saw, on one of the numerous islands in that river frontier a herd of cattle and two or three pits of potatoes. The cattle were poor, and the bank was steep and muddy, but we had been without beef for sometime, so it seemed there was no other way but to kill those cattle. We tied up to a tree and the execution officer commanded the landing party to go ashore and bring back the beef and potatoes ....

Lines were now brought ashore and the animals distributed and pulled on board the various boats, and we were once more on our way upstream. We



**Fresh Water Sailors**

dressed our beef as we pulled along, and you can imagine how our decks looked an hour after landing on that island. So it often happened that after we had everything cleaned up, we would have to "coal up" or do something to make them worse than ever.

It was my lot to be sent to the hospital at Memphis near the close of the war. I had been taking care of the sick on board a floating hospital for several weeks, being on duty half the night and half the day, until I myself was taken sick. As the "Silver Lake" passed Memphis on her way to New Orleans, I was put ashore and sent to the hospital. Ward after ward was filled with soldiers and gunboatmen, and not a day passed but some poor fellow was tenderly carried to the dead room. We were under the care of five Sisters of Charity, who went quickly from cot to cot ministering to the sick as tenderly as though we were relations. They always had a smile and pleasant words of encouragement for everyone....



**Between Decks**

A trip down the Mississippi is a pleasant one even though it be taken on a gunboat. Plantation after plantation is passed, most of which were only wrecks of former days when slavery existed. We passed by many bloody battlefields where many a poor soldier or gunboatman gave up his life to protect the dear old flag and his be-loved home. I can remember how many of those battlefields looked, as though it were but a few days ago instead of over a score of years ago. Fort Pillow, where the rebels gave no quarter to its defenders but shot them down like dogs, even after they had surrendered, because they were Negroes. Pittsburg Landing, Island No. 10, Vicksburg, were all the scenes of hard-fought battles.

[After the war ended,] The gunboats, as I said, had other work to do, that of moving the navy yard from Mound City, Illinois to Jefferson's Barracks near St. Louis. This work was now pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The boats at anchor now in sight, numbered over sixty and were now ordered to convoy their guns and arms of every description, the iron plating on their sides, every-thing to the navy yard. This done, we were ordered to load with guns and ammunition from the navy yard and proceed to Jefferson's Barracks, which we did, trip after trip, working day and night till the task was done.



**Union Naval Base,  
Mound City**

This was a hard task as you will readily understand when you consider the weight of the guns and ammunition to be handled; some of the guns weighing over 1,800 lbs. The heavier guns were handled by steam power, while the lighter ones were picked up by all the men who could get around them and carried. Often times it was necessary for the men to be in the water waist deep in order to safely land the guns.

Moving ammunition is fully as hard work and more dangerous, the larger part of it being "fixed ammunition" put up in boxes with rope handles, and weighing from one hundred to three hundred pounds. Two men carry them as carefully as possible for if handled as the average baggageman of today handles the trunks of the traveler, there is danger of explosion. Solid shot was rolled on board through a trench made in the sandy bank from the top down to the gangplank. Men were stationed along this trench and the shot started, each man giving them a kick to keep them going.

At last this work was done and we now thought we would certainly be discharged. The men were transferred to the receiving ship, "Great Western," to which had been added barge after barge, lashed side by side with strong harnesses in order to accommodate the large and increasing numbers of men. Each day lessened the number of men on the "Great Western" for we were now being discharged as rapidly as possible. (As fast as emptied) The boats were sold at auction. At the sound of the boat-swain's whistle, each man listened to hear if his boat's crew was called up for their discharges.

One memorable morning, the whistle sounded and the order was given. "All you 'Silver Lake' men lay up on the quarter-deck and get your discharges!" There was a shout from the "Silver Lake" men and a rush for the quarter-deck. In about two hours we came back with our papers and a roll of Uncle Sam's greenbacks in our pockets, smiling and happy, and were soon on our way homeward bound.

*True was mustered out of the service at Mound City, Illinois, on August 11, 1865. Three years later he moved to Aurora, Illinois, and then in 1877 moved farther west to Longmont, Colorado. He married in 1872, and worked as a farmer, living in Colorado until his death on February 1, 1920.*

## Old Baldy's January Meeting Review

# "The 2nd Wisconsin at Gettysburg"

By Michael Kirschner

By Kathy Clark,  
Vice President,  
OBCWRT



2nd Wisconsin  
Monument  
at Gettysburg



Left and Right  
Flank Markers

This little-known battle of the 2nd Wisconsin at Gettysburg saved the 1st day in the first minutes of infantry combat. The 2nd Wisconsin's solo charge into Herbst Woods was little known and less appreciated but prevented the first day of the battle of Gettysburg from being lost by the Union.

### ACT I

Monday, April 15, 1861, the battle at Fort Sumter, the opening act of the Civil War. Abraham Lincoln called for men to enlist and within six days over twenty companies were formed. Why did these men enlist? Charles Brown, Private of Company D wrote a letter to his mother explaining he felt it was his duty to fight for his country. Tragically Charles died six days later. Elles Taylor, Private Company 1 felt the same way but unfortunately, he was wounded in the Wilderness campaign and died five days later.

Arriving in Madison, Wisconsin Camp Randall established the 2nd Wisconsin infantry regiment. Ten companies were part of this regiment. The camp was a fair ground used for cattle in the summer and was cold and rainy in the winter. The Governor appealed to the ladies of the state to provide blankets in the winter and other provisions in the summer months. Thursday, May 16th all regiments were to enlist for three years instead of the normal ninety days. Over 500 men took the oath and those who did not want to do so went home.

### ACT II

July 1861 the regiments were transported to Washington D.C. and saw the first combat at the First Battle of Bull Run under the command of Brigadier Commander William T. Sherman. At the battle a few men of the 2nd Wisconsin wore state militia gray uniform, causing the regiment to receive friendly fire from Union troops. The troops thought they were from a Confederate regiment. None of the soldiers had any experience and never even fired a weapon. Their uniforms were falling apart. The poor performance at Bull Run resulted in many military men resigning.

The 2nd Wisconsin suffered heavy loss of men with 167 casualties, 26 mortally wounded or died in captivity, 112 wounded, and 29 POWS. The casualty rate was about 20%. Even though there were many losses the brigade did not feel discouraged but continued to feel hopeful and confident. The men experienced full combat.

### ACT III

August 28, 1862, began the battle of Gainesville (Brawner's Farm). General Gibbon of the 2nd, 6th and 7th Wisconsin, and 19th Indiana were part of this fight until darkness put an end to it all. The 2nd Wisconsin held its ground until the 19th Indiana came up on its left. They reinforced their enemy until the 6th and 7th came into the line. There were many casualties. The combat was fierce and determined. The line did not continue to advance but maintained their ground and every regiment preformed their duty, fighting without turning away. Every man was a hero! Unfortunately, there is no marker or memorialized areas, just an empty site beyond the brush to the dry grasses with no story to tell. These men fought and died on this Wisconsin land in unmarked graves.

### ACT IV

July 1, 1863, the battle of Antietam was the last heavy combat the 2nd Wisconsin saw until Gettysburg. The 2nd, 6th, 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana and 24th Michigan were all fighting at Gettysburg with the 2nd Wisconsin as the leader. They started an easy walk past the Cordori House, but then were told to run to the Lutheran Seminary. As the 2nd Wisconsin came rushing up the slope, Reynolds ran over to them and called out, "Forward men, forward

for God's sake and drive those fellows out of the woods. At this time Reynolds, commander of the army, was going toward Herbst Woods wanting to drive the Confederates out. Reynolds wanted to take the ground for the Union. Along Chambersburg Pike he told his men to take down all the fences so the men and artillery could get across the field. The 2nd Wisconsin ran into the woods toward Archer's Brigade without firing a shot. Unfortunately, Major General Reynolds fell mortally wounded at the edge of the woods.

The 2nd Wisconsin were greatly outnumbered but continued to advance toward Archer's Brigade. By the end of the day the 2nd Wisconsin was fighting alone. The day ended with this battle. Doubleday took over Reynold's corps and the 2nd Wisconsin went back to the Lutheran Seminary. The 2nd Wisconsin experienced a lot of casualties with 233 men out of 302, a 79% casualty rate. This was the 2nd Wisconsin's battle that they fought alone. Little did they realize that they saved the battle of Gettysburg for the Union. That night on Culp's Hill two men answered out of the twenty who had been present that day of fighting. At the end of the day the loss of the 2nd Wisconsin indicates the extreme of all the battles of the Civil War.

Michael Kirsehner brought a very interesting story concerning the Battle of Gettysburg. We always think we know all that went on in Gettysburg and then another story becomes part of the history. Michael brought to our attention how the 2nd Wisconsin became a very important part of the battle of Gettysburg. As we think of these Union soldiers and their desire to fight for their country, we cannot forget the battle in Herbst Woods and the unfortunate death of John Reynolds. The 2nd Wisconsin's many casualties were all part of their fight to defend our freedoms.

## Old Baldy's February Meeting Review

# "Decimus Et Ultimus Barziza"

By Drew Gruber

By Kathy Clark,  
Vice President,  
OBCWRT



Drew Gruber

Decimus was the 10th child of Phillip Ignatius Barziza (1796-1875) and Ceclia Amanda Bellit (1797-1872). He was born in 1838 in his hometown of Colonial Williamsburg. His parents named him Decimus Et Ultimus meaning in Latin, "tenth and last". Decimus was the Barziza's last child. Decimus is the great-grandson of John Paradise an English scholar and direct descendant of the Ludwell's who owned a property in Williamsburg. Decimus came from a slave holding family for the 1820 census includes six free white and ten slaves. By 1830 there were nine free white and additional slaves.

After attending William and Mary College from 1854-1857, Decimus graduated in 1857 and decided to move with his three brothers to Texas to study law at Baylor University. After graduating in 1859 he set up a law practice in Owensville, Texas. When the Civil War started in 1861 Barziza enlisted in the Confederate 4th Texas Infantry Brigade which was one of the original units of "Robertson 5-Shooters". It was known that 44% of southern soldiers came from slave holding households. After 1861 43% of Confederate soldiers came from slave holding households. Decimus and his brothers fit right into that percentage.

Decimus was 1st Lieutenant of Company C when he enlisted and by the Spring of 1862, he was Commander. The 4th Texas fought at Etham's Landing, Gaines Mill, and 2nd Manassas where he was wounded but recovered, became a Captain, and fought at Fredericksburg, Suffolk, and 7 Pines. He was injured twice in battle, recovered, and went on to fight at the Battle of Gettysburg. He injured again at Little Round Top and was captured and became a prisoner of war on Johnson's Island. While captured he started writing about people's interaction with each other thinking that they were peculiar, very bigoted people who only thought of themselves. He wrote poetry and liked to slip letters



Decimus Et Ultimus Barziza

to the newspaper editors on some of his views on the people and the war. Decimus decided he had enough of being prisoner of war and wanted to escape. He made his escape while being in a prisoner-transport train, going North from Philadelphia to New York with the final destination Montreal, leaping out of the window of the moving train in the middle of the night. He ended up in Huntington, Pennsylvania. He walked to upper Canada, stopping in Montreal to take some time to enjoy the sport of skating, then onto Nova Scotia. While in Nova Scotia he saw one of his professors from William and Mary negotiating a cotton deal. He was spotted by a blockade runner and was returned to North Carolina and then back to Texas. This is when he decides to write his memoirs of his captivity and life as a fugitive. In 1864 he wrote "The Adventures of a Prisoner of War and Life Scenes in Federal Prison by an Escaped Prisoner".

Paroled July 7, 1865, Decimus married Patricia Nicholas March 1869. He had no children but adopted his nephew Phillip Dorsey Barziza.

Returning home Decimus was elected to the House of Representatives from Texas. He was an opponent of Reconstruction and Post War Politics. In 1867 public disagreement almost leads to a duel. August 1869 there was a habeas corpus case that gave him the chance to have an audience with Grant. The election of 1873 saw the Democrats and Republicans disagreeing on everything. During the 14th Legislature, Decimus played an important role in the transition of the Governorship of Edmund J. Davis to Richard Coke. A recount was ordered and since all the representatives were roommates, friends, and families from Williamsburg they sided with the well-known Coke.

During the 15th Legislative he ran for Speaker of the House and lost by two votes. At the end of the session there was a dispute regarding the Texas and Pacific Railway. To prevent a vote, Decimus and 33 representatives did not return from recess so there could not be a quorum. The speaker ordered the absent representative be arrested and were forced back to the legislature to vote. On August 2, 1876, he resigned and returned to Houston and his law practice. Decimus help find the state's first trust company, the Houston Land and Trust Company and served as chairman of the board. After a long illness Decimus died January 30, 1883.

Drew had all of us laughing at some of the experiences that Decimus had as he went from student to soldier, legislator, and private citizen. As always Drew makes the story an adventure and with a name like Decimus Et Ultimus Barziza it just had to be a great story. We welcomed Drew back to Old Baldy and knew the story he would tell would be an interesting history lesson. The members always look forward to having Drew come by and talk about the Civil War events in Williamsburg and surrounding areas. Thanks, Drew, for coming back to Old Baldy with a great tale. **Huzzah to you!**

## A Trip to a Civil War Model Railroad Otherworld

By Thom Radice  
Member, OBCWRT



On Saturday, March 2, 2024, members of Old Baldy were guests of Thom Radice, located in Long Branch, NJ, to visit his award-winning showcase of Civil War model railroads, visual displays, and scenery. The arrangements were made by longtime Old Baldy member Harry Jenkins.

The displays center around the areas of Northwestern Georgia, Southeastern Tennessee, and Northeastern Alabama. Towns, people, troop equipment and movements, buildings, and railroads, were meticulously (re)constructed based on actual pictures of the era and specific locations. All were done based on HO scale.

Thom's setup consumes the entirety of his 3rd floor home - which, being built in 1890, actually affords more room up there than one might imagine. Thom started his quest in 2003, and, to borrow the expression, "What a Glorious Quest!" He has his workshop/assembly shop "behind the scenes," quite literally. His stock of raw material to construct this wonderland is second to

none. I've seen less material at some hobby shops.

Words can't start to describe the stunning amount of accuracy and detail that has gone into the making of these displays. The vertical background - that is, pictures of the sky, trees, and some buildings, is better than much faux Hollywood scenery I have come across. Even better than some of those used in "Gone with the Wind," in my humble opinion

While much of the train equipment is in situ, the main train goes around the entire shape of the layout - which is formed into a huge "U" shaped design. The train goes over many meticulously constructed bridges and tunnels, rail platforms and stations. The roof of one covered bridge was even constructed with metal - so the sparks of the locomotive wouldn't set the roof on fire - with wood normally being used for the roofs of other types of covered bridges.

The "people" dotting the scenery includes everyone - soldiers, ordinary folk, as well as slaves. There is even a scene of a deserted soldier being shot and buried - I kid you not! Oh - did I mention the number of outhouses available? No detail was too small to leave out - including the halfmoon on the doors of the outhouses. Trees were of the correct types to be found down in that area. Dirt and gravel was

typical of the color in that area as well, sort of a reddish nature.

If you want to see more of Thom's work, just simply Google his full name - there is plenty to be found regarding his CW RR work.


I'm not sure what else Tom can add to this extravaganza, especially with it already being 20+ years in the making. But after talking at length with Thom, and also finding out that he is a founding member of the American Civil War Railroad Society, I have no doubt the "Glorious Quest" will continue.



## Flat Old Baldy thanks the members who served as judges for New Jersey History Day Regional Competition at Rutgers Camden.


Frank Barletta,  
Rich Jankowski,  
Debbie Jankowski  
and Randy Acorcey




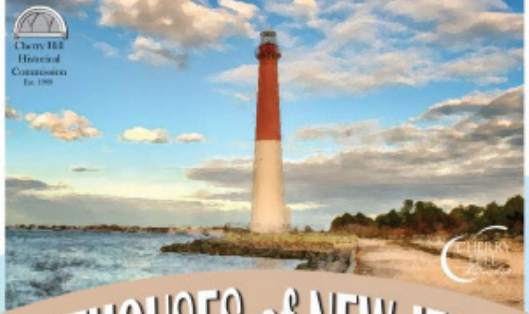

**Temple University**  
 College of Liberal Arts | Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy

## All Roads Lead to Gettysburg

A CENFAD Conference



April 6, 2024, 7:30 am – 5 pm  
 Temple University Center City Campus  
 Free and open to the public. RSVP at  
[joseph.johnson0008@temple.edu](mailto:joseph.johnson0008@temple.edu)

MAYOR DAVID FLEISHER, CHERRY HILL TOWNSHIP COUNCIL, AND THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION PRESENT  



## LIGHTHOUSES of NEW JERSEY

PRESENTED BY: NEW JERSEY LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY

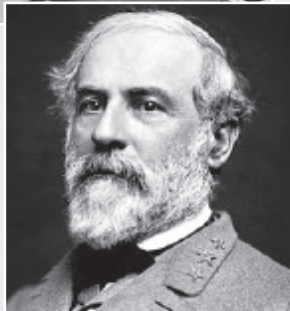
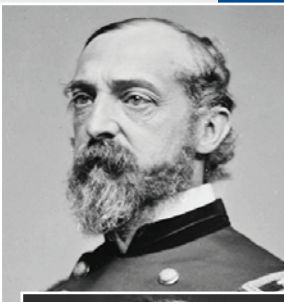
This in-person presentation will provide details on lighthouse history, structure, & different characteristics. Topics include keepers, governance, purpose, & how weather affects lighthouse structures. Marilyn Dunning & Alan Jacobson are volunteer presenters for the Society who have years of sailing experience to share!

**APRIL 17 | 7 PM**  
 CHERRY HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
 1100 Kings Highway N

**EVENT IS FREE** | REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AHEAD OF TIME.  
 REGISTER AT THE LINK BELOW

856-488-7868 | [WWW.CHNJ.GOV/LIGHTHOUSES](http://WWW.CHNJ.GOV/LIGHTHOUSES)

## Winter Of General Meade Series II (2024)



*This program is presented as a public service by the North Jersey Civil War Round Table, Old Baldy Civil War Round Table and General Meade Society and will be part of a three-part series*

Co-Presented by  
**NORTH JERSEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
**OLD BALDY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
**GENERAL MEADE SOCIETY**

Lecture 3

**“THE ROAD TO BRISTOE STATION”:**

*General Meade and General Lee*

*Presented by*

**Jeffrey Wm Hunt**

**Thursday, March 28, 2024**

**Time: 6:55 PM EST**

**Zoom: Please request link at: [NJCivilWarRT@aol.com](mailto:NJCivilWarRT@aol.com)**

At the end of the July 1863, the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac returned to the line of the upper Rappahannock. After a brief respite, both Robert E. Lee and George Meade expected the next phase of the Gettysburg campaign to begin shortly. Instead, each general found himself buffeted by events that disrupted his plans and thwarted his desires throughout August and September 1863. In the span of seven weeks, three major cavalry battles were fought in or around Culpeper County, as military and political leaders from both sides made war-altering strategic decisions amid draft riots, manpower woes, and the campaigns for Chattanooga. This period represents the critical connective tissue between Gettysburg and the upcoming Bristoe Station and Mine Run campaigns which would decide whether Meade would pick the fruits of his Pennsylvania victory or be denied its rewards by Lee.

Jeffrey William Hunt is the Director of the Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas, which is the official museum of the Texas National Guard, and an Adjunct Professor of History at Austin Community College, where he has taught since 1988. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Government and a Master’s Degree in History, both from the University of Texas at Austin. Jeff is the recipient of the Chicago Civil War Round Table Edwin Cole Bearss Award for Outstanding Civil War Scholarship (2022). Mr. Hunt, a prolific author, is the author of *Meade and Lee After Gettysburg: The Forgotten Final Stage of the Gettysburg Campaign: From Falling Waters to Culpeper Court House* (Savas Beatie, 2017, named Eastern Theater Book of the Year by Civil War Books & Authors)



## Our Sister Round Table Inland Empire Upcoming events



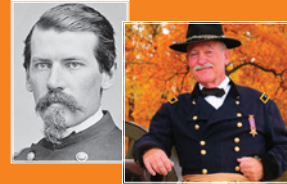
### "Cotton and War Economics"

Monday, March 18, Zoom at 6:15 p.m.  
Gordon Gidlund, IECWRT Board Director



### "Brigadier General Horace Porter, aide-de-camp to Union Gen. U.S. Grant"

Wednesday, March 20, In-Person & Zoom at 2 p.m.  
Mike Reetz, living historian:



For Zoom links, and regional Round Table program times  
& locations, go to: [inlandempirecwrt.org](http://inlandempirecwrt.org) and [socialcwrt.org](http://socialcwrt.org).



## Save the Date!

The 24th Conference on  
Women and the Civil War  
will be held July 26 - 28, 2024  
in Atlanta, Georgia

(More Details to follow)

The Society for Women and the  
Civil War is dedicated to  
recognizing the efforts of women  
who lived through or  
participated in the American Civil  
War and those who research,  
reenact or otherwise honor these  
women of the past. The society  
sponsors an annual conference and  
a quarterly e-journal.

Please contact us for information  
Society for Women and the Civil War  
PO Box 3117

Gettysburg PA 17325

For speediest response, send email to [SWCW1865@gmail.com](mailto:SWCW1865@gmail.com)

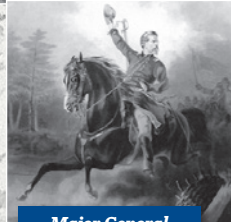
Please include your email address  
[www.swcw.org](http://www.swcw.org)

## The Old Baldy Civil War Round Table Invites You On A ... Williamsburg Trail Sign Dedication Trip



Save the Date...  
May 4 - 5, 2024

Jersey Boys



Major General  
Philip Kearny Jr.

### Williamsburg Dedication Trip Schedule

Saturday, May 4, 2024

6:00 Bus Departs From Cherry Hill

12:30 - 5:00

Tours of Williamsburg Battlefield,  
Fort Magruder & Redoubt Park

5:30 Check in

Best Western Williamsburg Hotel

6:30 - 9:00 Dinner with speaker

Sunday, May 5, 2024

6:30 - 8:30 Breakfast at Hotel Included

9:00 - 10:00 Dedication of Civil War Trail  
Sign at Location

10:00 - 1:00 Tour of Lee Hall Mansion

1:00 Board Bus for return trip

The cost for this exciting weekend will be \$175.00 per person, exclusive of hotel rooms.  
Hotel, Best Western Williamsburg Historic District, (757-229-4100)  
When making reservation advise that part of Old Baldy Group for special rate.  
Non-bus attendees for \$55.00 can enjoy the Guided Tours, The Speaker's Dinner,  
Dedication Ceremony and Lee Mansion Museum Tour.

To secure your seat on the bus, please submit a deposit of \$50.00 Checks (Refundable)  
should be made out to Old Baldy Civil War Round Table and forward to

Frank Barletta,  
44 Morning Glory Drive,  
Marlton, NJ 08053

Send Questions to  
[frank.barletta@comcast.net](mailto:frank.barletta@comcast.net)  
Phone: 215-605-6830

## Upcoming Events that the Old Baldy CWRT is Participating In...

Saturday-Sunday, May 4-5: Williamsburg Civil War Trails Trip  
Saturday, May 18: Annual Old Baldy's Picnic  
Saturday, June-8 (Rain Date June 9): South Jersey History Fair  
Saturday, October 12 (Rain Date October 13): Mullica Hill Fall Festival  
Late October: Glassboro Civil War Weekend  
Tuesday, December 31: Meade's Birthday at Laurel Hill



### New Members

**Bill Miller**  
Yorktown, VA

### Members/Awards with Old Baldy

**Michael Kalichak**  
10 Year Award



**Michael Demofonte**  
St. Louis

## Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2024

April 11, 2024 - Thursday  
James Jewell

“Agents of Empire: The 1st Orgeon Cavalry and the  
Opening of the Interior Pacific Northwest during the  
Civil War.”

April 16, 2024 - Tuesday  
John Zinn

“A Cradle of the National Pastime:  
New Jersey Baseball 1855 to 1880”

May 9, 2024 - Thursday  
Victor Vignola

“Contrasts in Command: The Battle of Fair Oaks”

Questions to  
Dave Gilson - 856-323-6484 - [dgilson404@gmail.com](mailto:dgilson404@gmail.com)

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](mailto:oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net)  
Founded January 1977

President: Richard Jankowski  
Vice President: Kathy Clark  
Treasurer: Frank Barletta  
Secretary: Mike Bassett  
Programs: Dave Gilson  
Membership: Amy and Dan Hummel

Trustees:  
Paul Prentiss  
Dave Gilson  
Jim Countryman

Editor: Don Wiles - [cwwiles@comcast.net](mailto:cwwiles@comcast.net)

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