

The Year of Lincoln - 200<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary of the Birth of  
Abraham Lincoln



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

## Cape May County Civil War Round Table April 2009 Newsletter

Deadline for the newsletter is the first of every month. If you need to contact me, see my listing among officers below. Meetings are held at the Cape May Court House Senior Center in Cape May Court House, normally at 7pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. **DUES FOR 2009 ARE DUE!** Please send dues to Jim Marshall.

### Meetings for 2009:

**16 April:** South Jersey Ghost Researcher's Group – professional investigators who have concentrated on Southern New Jersey. Presentation will cover the technology they use as well as the results they have obtained. Sites they have investigated include the GAR museum in Philly, the Flanders Hotel in Ocean City, and several B&Bs in Cape May. **Refreshments:** Nancy Baxter

**21 May:** Glenn LeBuff on the *Ten Moral Moments in the Life of Lincoln*; **Refreshments:** Jack McDonough

**18 June:** Carmen Fiori will be covering *Lincoln/Bush – a History Redux* – a comparison between Lincoln's administration to that of George Bush Jr. **Refreshments:** John Burke

**17 July:** Michael Wunsch of the General Meade Society will be telling us about *Abraham Lincoln and the Great Sanitary Fair of 16 June 1864*. **Refreshments:** Pat Munson-Siter

**21 Aug:** **Refreshments:** Mary Anne Donlin, in memory of Clark Donlin

**17 Sept:** **Refreshments:** Judy & John

**15 Oct:** Sid Copel will be returning to give us a presentation on *Civil War Spies and Guerillas*. **Refreshments:** Helen Olen, Bill & Cindy Craft

**19 Nov:** Dick Simpson will be lecturing on *Gettysburg – America's Greatest Art Park*; a slide presentation on the many magnificent monuments erected at Gettysburg by the survivors of the battle, many

designed by the finest sculptors and produced by some of the most skilled monument manufacturers of the day. **Refreshments:**  
**3 or 10 Dec:** Sue Gibson will be telling us about the Civil War Christmas Table. Potluck Christmas Dinner

## CMCCWRT OFFICERS FOR 2009::

**President:** Andy Lolli

17 Delaware Ave, Del Haven, NJ 08251  
609-889-0061

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Suzanne Gibson

214 Exton Rd., Sommers Point, NJ 08244  
609-927-9484

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Lou Bishop Jr.

21 Schoolhouse Ln, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

**Secretary:** Pat Munson-Siter

42 Franklin Ave., Villas, NJ 08251  
609-287-5097 / ladysymitar@hotmail.com

**Treasurer:** Jim Marshall

202 Bartram Lane, Ocean City, NJ 08226  
609-398-6924

## Minutes for the Civil War Round Table

### Business Meeting – 19 March 2009

President Lolli called the meeting to order. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for those serving our country.

Treasurer Marshall was running late, so Pres. Lolli gave the Treasurer's report; motion made to approve and file the report for audit; seconded and approved.

VP Gibson went over the list of presenters we have so far for this year. Aug & Sept. still open. Looking at either the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> of Dec. for the Christmas meeting. She also moved we approve an expenditure of \$50 for annual dues in the AMART (council of East Coast Civil War Round Tables); seconded and approved.

Discussion as to if we want to advertise on civilwar.com, with links to our website and addresses. Decision to approve the expenditure for one year (\$50) and see how many 'hits' result from the link.

Charles and Barbara Whalen sent a free copy of their book, *The Fighting McCools*, to be used as a raffle prize.

Mary Anne Donlin has sent \$20 to be used to buy refreshments for a meeting (it will be our July meeting) in memory of Clark Donlin.

The book that was given out for the donation drive tonight was *Shiloh* by Shelby Foote.

Meeting was adjourned so the presentation could start.

Respectfully submitted,

*Pat Munson-Siler*

Secretary, Cape May County Civil War Round Table

## Historic Events in April

### 1861

- 12 Confederates fire on Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor
- 13 Sumter surrenders
- 15 Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers
- 17 Virginia convention votes secession
- 18 Federal soldiers abandon Harpers Ferry
- 19 Soldiers-civilians clash in Baltimore
- 20 Confederates seize navy yard in Norfolk (VA)

### 1862

- 6-7 Battle of Shiloh (TN)
- 8 Confederates surrender Island No. 10 on Mississippi River
- 11 Union forces take Fort Pulaski (GA)
- 25 New Orleans falls to Union naval forces under Farragut

### 1863

- 2 Bread riots in Richmond

### 1864

- 8 Battle at Sabine Crossroads (LA)
- 12 Fort Pillow captured (TN)

### 1865

- 1 Battle of Five Forks (VA)
- 2 Petersburg occupied by Union troops
- 2-3 Richmond falls, Confederate government evacuates
- 4 Lincoln visits Richmond
- 6 Battle of Sailor's Creek (VA)
- 9 Lee surrenders at Appomattox CH
- 14 Lincoln shot at Ford's Theater
- 15 Lincoln dies
- 26 Johnston surrenders in North Carolina
- 26 Lincoln assassin Booth trapped and killed

#### • Reenactments, Lectures etc. occurring in May 2009

- 1 **VA** Walking tour, "Jefferson Davis's Richmond," a presidential view of the Confederate capital, begins at the Museum of the Confederacy. Noon. \$10. [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org) or 804-649-1861 extension 37.
- 1-2 **MD** Symposium, "Lincoln and His Era," lectures and optional

- IL OH NY DC** tour based in Hagerstown. Details, reservations: 888-257-2600 extension 10.
- 1-10 **IL OH NY DC** Bus tour, "With Lincoln on the Tracks" following the newly elected president's journey from Springfield to Washington, with Lincoln scholar Jack Waugh as guide. Custom Travel Concepts, 866-956-4440 or email [histours@aol.com](mailto:histours@aol.com).
- 2 **MD** Battlefield hikes on the Monocacy National Battlefield near Frederick. Ranger-guided two-hour walks at three different parts of the battlefield 8:30 am, 11 am and 2 pm. Free, reservations required. [www.nps.gov/mono](http://www.nps.gov/mono) or 301-662-3515.
- 2 **MD** Garden party and season opening at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum on the Antietam battlefield. Site open 11 am-5 pm, party 9 am-3 pm. \$2. 301-416-2395 or [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org).
- 2 **VA** Bus tour, "Jeb Stuart in Loudoun," includes Aldie, Middleburg battlefields and more. Leaves from Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road in Sterling. 9 am-5 pm. \$39. Reservations: 571-258-3700.
- 2 **VA** Tour, Brandy Station battlefield (Fleetwood Hill). Two-hour tour begins at 10 am at the Graffiti House visitor center north of Culpeper. \$10. [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com) or 540-547-4106.
- 2 **VA** "Life at Headquarters," daily life, tours and kids' activities at the Dabbs House Museum (RE Lee's first headquarters as commander of the Army of Northern Virginia), 3812 Nine Mile Road, just east of downtown Richmond. 1-4 pm. Free. 804-652-3409.
- 2 **PA** Rededication of the John Brown House, 225 E King St, Chambersburg. 1 pm. 717-264-1667 or [pafch.tripod.com/special.htm](http://pafch.tripod.com/special.htm).
- 2-3 **VA** Living history at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. Focus is on the beginning of the war, secession, enlistments and more. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/apco](http://www.nps.gov/apco) or 434-352-8987 extension 26.
- 2-3 **VA** Living history, infantry demonstrations at Henry Hill, Manassas National Battlefield Park. Free with park admission. 703-361-1339 or [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).
- 2-3 **VA** Living history, "Uncommon Hardship: Soldier and Civilian in the Wilderness," at the NPS sites and at Ellwood, the 1790s home that served as a Union command post during the battle. All are west of Fredericksburg near the intersection of Routes 3 and 20. Opening day at Ellwood on Saturday, living history with camps and demonstrations at the house 11 am-5 pm Sunday. Free. [www.fowb.org](http://www.fowb.org) or [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp).
- 2-3 **VA** Battle of the Wilderness anniversary commemoration at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. Special programs and tours all weekend. Free. [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp) or 540-373-6122.
- 2-3 **MD** Washington County Museum and Historic Site Ramble includes the Pry House Field Hospital Museum on the Antietam battlefield. Event based in Hagerstown includes special ticket and prizes. [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org) or 301-416-2395.
- 3 **MD** Battlefield Hike, "The Final Attack," begins at Stop 9 on the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. 1:15 pm. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti) or 301-432-5124.

3	MD	Civil War "Quilting and Sewing Day" at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 11 am-3 pm. Free with admission. 301-695-1864 or <a href="http://www.civilwarmed.org">www.civilwarmed.org</a> .	15-17	VA	Reenactment, annual anniversary event in New Market. Living history and programs all weekend. Tactical battles Friday (time TBA) and Saturday (2 pm), Battle of New Market Sunday (1:30 pm). Camps open 10 am- 5 pm during the weekend. \$10/adult. <a href="http://www.vmi.edu/newmarket">www.vmi.edu/newmarket</a> or 866-515-1864.
7-10	VA	Bus tour, "Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness and Spotsylvania," includes tours, lodging and most meals. A Civil War Journey tour. <a href="http://www.civilwarjourney.com">www.civilwarjourney.com</a> or 866-CWW-TOUR.	16	VA	Tour, Brandy Station battlefield (Buford Knoll and Yew Ridge) Two-hour tour begins at 10 am at the Graffiti House visitor center north of Culpeper. \$10. <a href="http://www.brandystationfoundation.com">www.brandystationfoundation.com</a> or 540-547-4106.
8	MD	Ladies Tea at Gambrill Mansion on the Monocacy National Battlefield near Frederick. Program highlights 19th century life. Free, reservations required. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/mono">www.nps.gov/mono</a> or 301-662-3515.	16	VA	"The Great History Book Exchange," tables of books for sale or exchange at the American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar in Richmond. 9 am-5 pm. Free with admission. <a href="http://www.tredegar.org">www.tredegar.org</a> or 804-780-1865.
9	PA MD	Bus tour, "Frederick and Monocacy" leaves from the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. Trip includes the National Museum of Civil War Medicine and the Monocacy National Battlefield. \$125. <a href="http://www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org">www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org</a> or 717-260-1861.	16	VA	Van tour, "The Siege of Petersburg: The Eastern Front," includes the James River crossing, City Point and part of the Petersburg National Battlefield. Begins at Lee Hall Mansion in Newport News. 8 am-4 pm. \$50, reservations required, space limited. 757-888-3371 or <a href="http://www.leehall.org">www.leehall.org</a> .
9	MD	Living history, "Confederate Surgeon," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 11 am-4 pm. Free with admission. 301-695-1864 or <a href="http://www.civilwarmed.org">www.civilwarmed.org</a> .	16-17	NY	"Fire on the Genessee," at Letchworth State Park, Mt. Morris. Camps, demonstrations daily. Battles 1:30 pm Saturday and 2 pm Sunday. Camps open 9:30 am-5pm each day. <a href="http://www.fireonthegenessee.com">www.fireonthegenessee.com</a> .
9	VA	Tea, "Mother-Daughter" event at Liberia Mansion in Manassas. 1-4 pm. \$35/person. <a href="http://www.manassasmuseum.org">www.manassasmuseum.org</a> or 703-368-1873.	16-17	MD	Living history, "Recruit Weekend," Union and Confederate recruiters onsite at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum on the Antietam battlefield. 11 am-5 pm. \$2. 301-416-2395 or <a href="http://www.civilwarmed.org">www.civilwarmed.org</a> .
9	VA	Living history, "A Tea with Stonewall Jackson," features a Jackson reenactor at Stonewall Jackson's Headquarters in Winchester. 2 pm. \$25. 540-667-3242 or <a href="http://www.winchesterhistory.org">www.winchesterhistory.org</a> .	16-17	PA	Living history camps and programs at the Pennsylvania Memorial and Spangler Spring, Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/gett">www.nps.gov/gett</a> or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
9	VA	Living history walk, "Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee," in Atoka (4 miles west of Middleburg on U.S. 50). Civil War characters present vignettes. Sponsored by the Mosby Heritage Area. 7:30 pm. \$5/adult. <a href="http://www.mosbyheritagearea.org">www.mosbyheritagearea.org</a> or 540-687-6681.	16-17	VA	Reenactment, "Fort Pocahontas, The Action at Wilson's Wharf," living history, tours, demonstrations and battles each day at 1 pm. Site is on the James River, off Route 5 between Richmond and Williamsburg. \$10/adult. Details, directions: 804-829-9722 or <a href="http://www.fortpocahontas.org">www.fortpocahontas.org</a> .
10	MD	Battlefield Hike, "Afternoon Overview," begins across from the National Cemetery at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. 1:15 pm. Free with park admission. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/anti">www.nps.gov/anti</a> or 301-432-5124.	16-17	VA	Battle of Spotsylvania anniversary commemoration at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. Special programs and tours all weekend. Free. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/frsp">www.nps.gov/frsp</a> or 540-373-6122.
11	DC MD VA	Tour, "John Wilkes Booth Escape Route," popular 12-hour tour sponsored by the Surratt Society. \$70. <a href="http://www.surratt.org">www.surratt.org</a> or 301-868-1121.	16-17	VA	Living history and ranger tours, anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Drewry's Bluff (part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park) 10 am-5 pm Saturday, 10 am-3 pm. Free. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/rich">www.nps.gov/rich</a> or 804-771-2145.
13-17	VA	North-South Skirmish Association live-fire competition using authentic and reproduction Civil War weapons near Winchester. 9 am-6 pm each day. Free. Directions: 248-258-9007 or <a href="http://www.n-ssa.org">www.n-ssa.org</a>	16-17	VA	Tour, "Chancellorsville: Lee's Greatest Victory," based in Fredericksburg. \$295 plus lodging. <a href="http://www.civilwartours.org">www.civilwartours.org</a> or 860-485-3244.
14	VA	Lecture, "'Stuart's Final Ride': The Battle of Yellow Tavern, May 11, 1864" at Walkerton Tavern, 2892 Mountain Road, Glen Allen (north of Richmond). 7 pm. Free. 804-652-3411.	17	VA	Walking tour, "Freedman's Farm and Confederate Winter Camp," at Montpelier, home of James Madison, near Orange. 540-672-2728 extension 441 or <a href="http://www.montpelier.org">www.montpelier.org</a> .
14-17	VA	Tour, 1864 Cavalry Raids around Richmond and Petersburg," based at Pamplin Historical Park. Includes Yellow Tavern, Haw's Shop, Wilson-Kautz and Trevilian Station. <a href="http://www.pamplinpark.org">www.pamplinpark.org</a> or 877-726-7546.	18	MD	Lecture, "Women in the Civil War," at the Middletown Library, 101 Prospect St. 7 pm. Free. 301-371-7560.
15	DC MD VA	Tour, "Booth's Escape Route," a Smithsonian tour with Ed Bearss. Begins in Washington DC at 8 am. Details, registration: <a href="http://www.civilwarstudies.org">www.civilwarstudies.org</a> ; click on "Activities."	18	VA	Lunch talk, "Deadly Disease in the 19th Century," at the Manassas Museum. 12:15 pm. \$4. <a href="http://www.manassasmuseum.org">www.manassasmuseum.org</a> or 703-368-1873.
15	VA	New Market Day at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington. Cadets honor the fellow students who died during the 1864 Battle of New Market. 2 pm. Free. <a href="http://www.vmi.edu">www.vmi.edu</a> .	22-24	DE	Seaford Heritage Festival at Ross Mansion (510 Pine St Ext)

- features Civil War living history and demonstrations, fashion show and church service plus tours of the mansion. 302-629-9690.
- 23 **NC** Memorial Day Remembrance with living history at Bennett Place State Historic Site in Durham. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 919-383-4345.
- 23 **VA** Walking tour, "Mr. Lincoln's Fredericksburg," one-mile walk takes visitors to sites visited by the President in 1862. Meets at City Dock in Fredericksburg. 10 am. Free. [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp) or 540-373-6122.
- 23 **VA** Luminaria, annual event with more than 15,000 candles at the Fredericksburg National Cemetery. 8-11 pm. Free shuttle from the University of Mary Washington parking lot, William Street and Sunken Road. Rain date is May 24. [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp) or 540-373-6122.
- 23-24 **PA** Living history camps and programs at the Pennsylvania Memorial, Meade's Headquarters and Spangler Spring, Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett) or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 23-24 **VA** Living history, "Civil War Weekend" at the Yorktown unit of the Colonial National Historical Park. Camps, demonstrations and field hospital. Free with park admission. 757-898-2410 or [www.nps.gov/colo](http://www.nps.gov/colo).
- 23-24 **VA** Living history, "General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant at City Point," at the Grant's Headquarters unit of the Petersburg National Battlefield in Hopewell. Free. [www.nps.gov/pete](http://www.nps.gov/pete) or 804-458-9504.
- 24 **VA** Confederate Memorial Day at the Old City Cemetery in Lynchburg. Living history, speeches. 3 pm. Free. [www.gravegarden.org](http://www.gravegarden.org) or 434-847-1465.
- 25 **PA** Memorial Day parade and ceremony at the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg. Parade begins 2 pm. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett) or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 25 **VA** Memorial Day ceremonies with living history at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 703-361-1339 or [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).
- 25 **VA** Memorial Day observance at the Manassas National Battlefield. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana) or 703-361-1339.
- 25 **VA** Memorial Day ceremony at the Fort Harrison National Cemetery near Richmond. Noon. Free. [www.nps.gov/rich](http://www.nps.gov/rich) or 804-771-2145.
- 27 **VA** Lecture, "Mary Surratt: An American Tragedy," at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. 7:30 pm. Free. 703-838-4994.
- 27-31 **VA** Conference, "Petersburg to Appomattox," based in Richmond. Lectures, talks and tours. More info: [www.scps.virginia.edu/travelandlearn/civilwar](http://www.scps.virginia.edu/travelandlearn/civilwar) or 800-346-3882.
- 30 **MD** Living history, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I Give You President Lincoln," at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 4 pm. Free. [www.surratt.org](http://www.surratt.org) or 301-868-1121.
- 30 **VA** Walking tour, "The Life and Work of Petersburg's Enslaved," begins at the Petersburg Courthouse. 11 am and 2 pm. Free. [www.nps.gov/pete](http://www.nps.gov/pete) or 804-732-3531.

- 30 **VA** Tour, Brandy Station battlefield (Beverly Ford and St. James Church). Two-hour tour begins at 10 am at the Graffiti House visitor center north of Culpeper. \$10. [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com) or 540-547-4106.
- 30-31 **PA** Living history camps and programs at Pitzer Woods and Spangler Spring, Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett) or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 30-31 **PA** Living history, "Civil War Reunion," at Pennypacker Mills in Schwenksville. Civilian and military living history, house tours and demonstrations all weekend. 10 am-5 pm Saturday, 10 am-4 pm. Sunday. Free. [www.civilwarreunion.org](http://www.civilwarreunion.org) or 610-287-9349.



### Academy Award-Winning Actor Helps Unveil Report Identifying America's Most Endangered Battlefields

At a news conference this morning, the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) unveiled its annual report on the status of the nation's historic battlegrounds. The report, entitled *History Under Siege™: A Guide to America's Most Endangered Civil War Battlefields*, identifies the most threatened Civil War sites in the United States and what can be done to save them.

"In town after town, the irreplaceable battlefields that define those communities are being marred forever," said CWPT President James Lighthizer. "As we approach the Sesquicentennial of the bloodiest conflict in our nation's history, we need to be more aware than ever of the importance of preserving these sacred places for generations to come."

Joining Lighthizer at the news conference announcing the report was actor Richard Dreyfuss. Best known for his roles in films like *American Graffiti*, *Jaws*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, and his Academy Award-winning turn in *The Goodbye Girl*, Dreyfuss is also an avid student of history and has been involved in numerous documentary projects, including *The Great Battles of the Civil War and Lincoln*.

Of the growing need for historic preservation Dreyfuss said, "These hallowed battlegrounds should be national shrines, monuments to American valor, determination and courage. Once these irreplaceable treasures are gone, they're gone forever."

Also participating in the news conference was Dr. Libby O'Connell Chief Historian for History, formerly The History Channel. O'Connell developed and oversees Save Our History, the group's campaign for historic preservation and history education. "These endangered Civil War battlefields are the places where many Americans made the greatest sacrifice for their country," said O'Connell. "They must be protected."

*History Under Siege™: A Guide to America's Most Endangered Civil War Battlefields* is composed of two parts. The first section presents the 10 most endangered battlefields in the nation, providing a brief description of the history and preservation status of each site. The second section briefly describes the 15 additional "at risk" sites that round out the top 25 endangered Civil War battlefields in the United States.

The sites discussed in the report range from the famous to the nearly forgotten. All share a critical feature, however—at least part of each site is in danger of being lost forever. The battlefields were chosen based on



geographic location, military significance, and the immediacy of current threats.

Among the sites included in the report is **Monocacy, Maryland, July 9, 1864**, an engagement often called the “battle that saved Washington.” Monocacy is today threatened by a planned waste-to-energy facility with a proposed 350-foot-tall smokestack, which would be visible from much of the battlefield. The \$527 million facility would process trash from Frederick and Carroll counties, burning up to 1,500 tons per day. The battle at Monocacy occurred when the Confederate Army of the Valley marched down the Shenandoah Valley and into Maryland, during the third and final Confederate invasion of the North. An impromptu force of largely inexperienced soldiers moved to block the Southerners before they could threaten Washington or Baltimore. The Confederates, outnumbering their opponents nearly three to one, outflanked and overpowered the Union troops, inflicting more than 20 percent casualties before forcing their foe to retire. Although defeated, the Union stand had bought valuable time and enabled veteran troops to reinforce Washington before the Confederates arrived at its outskirts.

The battle of the **Wilderness, Virginia, May 5-7, 1864**, was among the most significant engagements of the war and marked the first time two Civil War legends — Gen. Robert E. Lee and Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant — faced each other in battle. Nearly 29,000 American soldiers were killed, wounded or captured in the horrendous, two-day struggle fought in scrub growth and among burning trees and earthworks. Today, preservationists in Orange County, Va., are facing an uphill battle to stop Walmart from building a new 138,000-square foot supercenter across Route 3 from the battlefield. There are already several other Walmart’s within a 20-mile radius and, if built, the new store would ensure further commercial development in the area. Preservationists have offered to fund a comprehensive planning study that would preserve the battlefield while allowing the Orange County to meet its economic development needs.

On the morning of May 1, 1863, Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant’s Union army had crossed the Mississippi River and was beginning its final push to capture Vicksburg. While 8,000 severely outnumbered Confederates fought savagely at **Port Gibson, Mississippi**, their sacrifice was in vain, and 800 of their number were killed, wounded or went missing that day. Grant lost slightly more men but secured a vital river crossing for his army, allowing him to press on to Vicksburg. Local lore has it that Union forces marching through Mississippi spared the town of Port Gibson from the torch because it was too beautiful to burn. Today the area retains its tree-lined streets and is home to a tourist industry centered on its quaint small-town charm and history. These very traits, however, are threatened by a proposal to widen U.S. Route 61, Church Street, through the heart of town. Local officials, including the mayor, are lobbying for a bypass to the east of town, which would skirt the battlefield more widely and avoid historic neighborhoods.

In addition to Monocacy, the Wilderness and Port Gibson, *History Under Siege*™ includes:

**Cedar Creek, Virginia, October 19, 1864:** The site of a Union victory that helped propel Abraham Lincoln to reelection in 1864 is today threatened by the expansion of a limestone mining operation on core battlefield land. Heavy machinery and slag piles from existing quarries are already visible. Despite vehement opposition and the recommendation of the county planning commission, the Frederick County Board of Supervisors rezoned 394 acres, greatly increasing the size of the mine and threatening to destroy significant sections of the northern part of the battlefield. In addition, Cedar Creek is one of approximately 15 battlefields across Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia potentially impacted by a proposed network of high-voltage electric transmission lines in the eastern U.S.

**Fort Gaines, Alabama, August 5-8, 1864:** Despite its strategic location on Dauphin Island at the entrance to Mobile Bay and its occupation by 800 Confederate troops in August of 1864, Fort Gaines was overpowered by Union Admiral David Farragut’s fleet of 18 ships. Today, the fort faces another mighty foe: the Gulf of Mexico. Recent dredging practices have significantly hastened the erosion of Dauphin Island, threatening to cut the island in two. Some 400 feet of historic battlefield have already been erased.

**Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 1-3, 1863:** The largest and bloodiest battle of the Civil War raged for three days and claimed a horrific price — more than 50,000 killed, wounded and missing. Although it is the best-known of all Civil War battlefields, Gettysburg still faces threats to its preservation and interpretation. Many historically significant locations on the battlefield lie outside the boundaries of Gettysburg National Military Park and are vulnerable to residential or commercial development. Preservationists are

eager to protect one such area, known locally as the Gettysburg Country Club, but the high asking price has thus far put it out of their reach.

**New Market Heights, Virginia, September 29, 1864:** Outside Richmond, north of the James River, nearly 3,000 African American soldiers in Union blue were anxious to prove themselves. In a bloody but valorous attack at New Market Heights, these United States Colored Troops lost more than 800 men in one hour. Of the 16 Medals of Honor awarded to African American troops in the Civil War, 14 were earned by soldiers fighting that day. Despite its indisputable historic significance, New Market Heights is completely at the mercy of development with no land protected by preservation organizations. Some significant portions of the battlefield have already been destroyed by a housing development, and growing traffic congestion on Virginia Route 5 will ultimately necessitate the widening of the highway, threatening approximately 75-acres of still-pristine battlefield land.

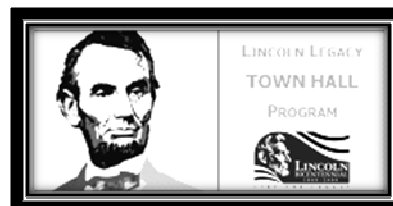
**Sabine Pass, Texas, September 8, 1863:** Anxious to prevent a viable Confederate trade route through Mexico, President Abraham Lincoln sent a force to capture Sabine Pass and begin the occupation of Texas. The only Confederate line of defense was a few dozen artillerymen manning six cannons inside Fort Griffin. Their deadly accuracy caused one of the most lopsided victories of the war as they turned back the Union fleet and captured several hundred prisoners. The site of this struggle was closed to the public after sustaining heavy damage during Hurricane Rita in 2005 and again following Hurricane Ike in 2008.

**South Mountain, Maryland, September 14, 1862:** In his first invasion of the North, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee famously divided his army in the face of a superior Union army under Gen. George B. McClellan. A copy of one of his orders, detailing the vulnerability of his outnumbered forces, fell into McClellan’s hands and spurring his foes to confront Lee’s army at South Mountain. The hopelessly outnumbered Southerners fought back savagely in defense of three gaps along South Mountain. Today, the historic battleground is threatened by a \$55 million natural gas compression station planned nearby.

**Spring Hill, Tenn., November 29, 1864:** Spring Hill, site of a famous missed opportunity for Confederate forces that led to a disastrous defeat in nearby Franklin, is located in Middle Tennessee, one of the nation’s most rapidly growing regions. General Motors is looking to sell approximately 500 acres of unused land associated with the battlefield. Initial plans call for 400 acres of high-density development including apartments, a hotel, a theater, restaurants and retail and office space adjacent to the battlefield.

Although many battlefields are endangered, CWPT is making significant progress in the fight to preserve them. In 2008, the organization rescued approximately 1,000 acres of hallowed ground at legendary battlefields such as Champion Hill, Miss.; Bentonville, N.C.; Shiloh, Tenn.; and Brandy Station, Va. Since its creation two decades ago, CWPT has protected more than 25,000 acres at more than 100 sites in 19 states. CWPT first issued its annual report on endangered battlefields in February 2001.

With 60,000 members, CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission is to preserve our nation’s endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. CWPT’s website is <http://www.civilwar.org/>.



[http://abrahamlincoln200.org/lincolns-legacy/town-halls/default.aspx?ekmense=c580fa7b\\_26\\_358\\_btnlink](http://abrahamlincoln200.org/lincolns-legacy/town-halls/default.aspx?ekmense=c580fa7b_26_358_btnlink)

### *Abraham Lincoln's 200th Birthday*

Even though Abraham Lincoln’s 200th birthday anniversary isn’t until Feb. 12, 2009, the commemoration activities have begun. They will continue through 2010.

Lincoln was born in a log cabin Feb. 12, 1809, in Hardin County, Ky. His family moved to Indiana when he was 7 and then to

Illinois in 1830. His early life is the stuff of legend, growing up hard and largely self-educated.

The young Lincoln won his first political office — the Illinois state legislature — in 1834. He achieved a law degree in 1837 and moved to Springfield, Ill., to practice. He married Mary Todd in 1842. Lincoln was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1846, but after a controversial term, he chose not to run for reelection. He continued to build his law practice and reputation in Springfield and Illinois.

He ran for the U.S. Senate in 1858 but was defeated by rival Stephen Douglas after a famous series of debates. His national prominence grew in the turbulent years before the war and he won the Republican nomination for President in 1860 and the subsequent election.

The war started shortly after his inauguration, and Lincoln endured almost exactly four years of war. His leadership and his determination to “save the Union” is the source of his continuing fame.

Lincoln was shot while attending a play at Ford’s Theater in Washington April 14, 1865. He died early the next morning. His body was returned to Springfield after a grand funeral procession across the country. He is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery there.

**The 200th birthday commemoration itineraries and events:**

- [www.lincolnbicentennial.gov](http://www.lincolnbicentennial.gov)
- [www.nps.gov/abli/parknews/ abraham-lincoln-bicentennial-calander.htm](http://www.nps.gov/abli/parknews/abraham-lincoln-bicentennial-calander.htm)
- [www.lincoln200.net](http://www.lincoln200.net)
- [www.abrahamlincoln200.org](http://www.abrahamlincoln200.org)
- [www.in.gov/lincoln](http://www.in.gov/lincoln)
- [www.lincolnadventures.com](http://www.lincolnadventures.com)
- [www.kylincoln.org](http://www.kylincoln.org)
- [www.palincoln.org](http://www.palincoln.org)
- **Illinois Lincoln Tours**
- **Lincoln-related Smithsonian exhibits**
- **National Museum of Health and Medicine** in Washington DC  
Lincoln assassination exhibit includes the ball that killed him among other items
- **Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis** exhibits Lincoln artifacts and extensive archives
- **The Jepson Leadership Forum 2008–2009**  
"Abraham Lincoln's Legacy of Leadership" is the focus of eight events at the University of Richmond's Jepson School of Leadership Studies

**The major places devoted to Lincoln’s life:**

- **Kentucky: Birthplace, boyhood home, museum**
- **Indiana: Boyhood home and museum**
- **Springfield, Illinois: Museum and library, home, law office, Old State Capitol, Salem Village**
- **Ford’s Theatre and Washington DC**
- **Tennessee: Lincoln Library and Museum, Harrogate**



**MEDIA ADVISORY: GOVERNOR TIM KAINE,**

**LAWMAKERS, JOIN CWPT TO PROMOTE BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION IN VIRGINIA**

**(Fredericksburg, Va.)** - Virginia Governor Tim Kaine will be the keynote speaker at a news conference to promote battlefield preservation in the Old Dominion on Tuesday, March 24, 2009. The news conference will be held at the historic Slaughter Pen Farm on the Fredericksburg Battlefield.

Joining Governor Kaine at the news conference will be Civil War Preservation Trust President James Lighthizer, Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates Bill Howell and Virginia State Senator Edd Houck. Virginia Director of Historic Resources Kathleen Kilpatrick will emcee the event.

The Slaughter Pen Farm is one of the many historic sites that have already benefited from the Virginia Historic Battlefield Preservation Fund, a program created by the Commonwealth during the first year of the Kaine administration. During the news conference, Governor Kaine and lawmakers will talk about the accomplishments of this public-private partnership program and discuss the challenges that remain.

The news conference will begin at 10:00 a.m. The Slaughter Pen Farm property is located along Tidewater Trail (Route 2) south of Fredericksburg in Spotsylvania County, Va. Following the news conference, Governor Kaine will be available to meet and greet attendees. The press and public are encouraged to arrive early since there is only one entrance to the farm.

**WHAT: News conference at Slaughter Pen Farm on Fredericksburg Battlefield**

**WHO: Governor Tim Kaine, Virginia Speaker of the House Bill Howell, Virginia State Senator Edd Houck, and CWPT President**

**Jim Lighthizer**

**WHEN: Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. (the press and public are encouraged to arrive early)**

**WHERE: Slaughter Pen Farm, 11300 block of Tidewater Trail (Va. Route 2), Fredericksburg, Va.**

The Civil War Preservation Trust is a 60,000-member nonprofit battlefield preservation organization. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War sites and promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. CWPT's website is located at [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org).

## *Positive Developments for Preservation*

By **JEFF SAY**

Published: March 30, 2009 in the *Culpepper Star-Exponent*

BRANDY STATION — Imagine the sound of roaring crowds, the smell of burning rubber and excitement produced by a Formula 1 race. Now imagine it taking place on one of the nation's most important Civil War battlefields.

Twenty years ago, that fiction nearly became reality — if it hadn't been for the efforts of one dedicated group of grassroots preservationists.

The Brandy Station Foundation, formed in 1989, celebrated its 20th anniversary at its annual banquet March 20, and members of the organization recalled what a long trip it's been to reach today's level of success.

## Battling development

When the foundation formed in 1989, its 12 members were veterans at fighting residential development that had threatened the battlefield.

The airpark had already been established in the northern part of the county, but developers were proposing an office park, subdivisions and, at one point in time, a Formula 1 racetrack.

“Which of these terms does not fit? Mario Andretti, Monaco, Grand Prix, Elkwood Downs,” foundation member Dr. Daniel Beattie said before he took the stage as guest speaker at last week’s banquet.

Beattie, author of “Brandy Station 1863: First steps toward Gettysburg,” recalled the original mission the foundation held early in its existence.

“In those days, we were involved as an obstructionist role,” Beattie said. “It’s good to be against certain things, like cancer or mindless development. Our job was to try to keep a developer from putting up an aged city on the land that is now opposite the airport.

“Then we were lucky enough to persuade the Association of Preservation of Civil War Sites (now the Civil War Preservation Trust) to make a huge investment. It was their largest project ever.”

The Brandy Station Foundation had an uphill battle, as many members of the county held differing views regarding how battlefield land should best be utilized. The foundation had to convince county leaders that the land was a valuable asset that would generate tourism.

“A lot of people back in the beginning, they’re on our side now because they can see the revenue, there’s been a kind of mind change,” said BSF board member Helen Geisler.

Geisler praised the original members’ dedication and the tireless work of Tersh Boasberg, who helped change zoning on 5,000 acres of battlefield. Now the foundation owns five pieces of land, and a sixth is under easement.

Geisler, who has been with the organization since late 1989, is amazed at how far it has progressed.

“At times we thought we just couldn’t go any further,” she said. “One of the real turning points, as far as the foundation, is when we acquired 13 acres at the approach to Fleetwood Hill. We got so many donations from Pennsylvania and New York that we were able to pay that note off.”

One of the other turning points came in 2002, when the foundation purchased the Graffiti House, a building that sits strategically near the railroad tracks and served as a hospital and headquarters during the war. Soldiers from both sides wrote on the interior walls with charcoal, and the graffiti has been preserved so generations of Civil War descendants and enthusiasts can literally see history.

Outgoing BSF President Bob Luddy points to the Graffiti House as being a tangible asset that helps the foundation chronicle how many tourists have passed across the building’s threshold.

“The Graffiti House has allowed us to evolve in a completely different way,” Luddy said, adding that more than 10,000 visitors have passed through the house since the foundation bought it.

House visitation has increased each year, peaking with a 17 percent spike in 2008 when more than 3,000 people visited.

Luddy points to higher visitation as one of the reasons the BSF raised more money last year than any other. The foundation boasts between 350 to 400 members, and a majority of the visitors leave a donation.

## Victims of their own success

While the increase in visitation has been a blessing, the increased

number of tourists also has caused the rickety house to suffer structural wear and tear.

“We’re victims of our own success,” Luddy said. “If you have a lot of people coming through an old house, they deteriorate even faster. So right now we have preservation work going on.”

Restoring a 151-year-old house takes time, patience and money. The current project involves strengthening the foundation. Luddy explained how the house is basically built on 15 piles of rubble, and there are two- to three-inch bows in the floorboards.

The biggest obstacle is dealing with the vibrations of the nearby railroad. The house was built to withstand the vibrations of an 1860s-era train rumbling by once or twice a day, not the vibrations of a multi-ton modern locomotive thundering by dozens of times a week.

Those vibrations have shifted the house, but contractors are installing preventative framework.

“If we get the vibration problem solved,” Luddy said, “I think all the other problems pale in significance. Then you can choose a myriad of ways to preserve the graffiti.”

## Treasures found

During the renovation project, several treasures have been unearthed at the Graffiti House.

BSF President Robert Jones informed the membership that an 1884 “Indian head” one-cent coin and an 1865 two-cent coin were found under the building. The contractors also discovered the original central chimney and that the first floor is held together without nails.

But the biggest discovery is that the two-story building was not always two stories. The contractors discovered that the original structure was one-and-a-half stories and found the framework of the original roof.

Looking forward, new president Bob Jones said that “2009 is a year of stewardship,” looking at maintaining the properties at St. James Church and Kelly’s Ford.

The foundation also received a T-21 grant from the Virginia Department of Transportation for \$68,000 and plans to use the money to make traffic-control improvements to the 13-acre site at Fleetwood Hill.

## End of an era

Luddy has served as president for 10 years, but due to health concerns the Maryland resident is stepping down from his post.

“It’s very tough,” Luddy said of leaving office. “Before I got sick, I was down here two, three, four times a week. I enjoyed every minute of it. The house, I think, is a tremendous treasure trove for not only the county, but also the nation.”

Even though he won’t be the head of the foundation, Luddy won’t be a stranger.

He still plans to visit a few times a month to lead trips through the house and share the history hidden behind its walls.

## 2009 lecture program

April 26: “The Emergence of Grant;” Richard Deardoff

May 31: The Courts-martial of Lt. Col. Henry Clay Pate,” Joseph McKinney

June 28: “Three years a soldier;” Richard Griffin

July 26: “Reconciliation: The Postwar Relationship between John Singleton Mosby and Ulsses S. Grant,” Dave Goetz

Aug. 30: “Walt Whitman’s Civil War,” Melissa Delcour

Sept. 27: “The Civil War in Culpeper through the eyes of artists and



photographers,” Michael Block  
Oct. 25: “Music of the Civil War,” Evergreen Shade

### Battlefield tours

Info: Tours begin at 10 a.m. at the Graffiti House and end at noon.  
Cost: Admission is \$10 for adults, children younger than 12 are free  
Call: Gary Wilson at 547-4106 or e-mail: [wilsonga@vabb.com](mailto:wilsonga@vabb.com)  
Beverly’s Ford and St. James Church: April 4, May 30, July 25  
Kelly’s Ford and Stevensburg: April 18, June 13, Aug. 8  
Fleetwood Hill: May 2, June 27, Aug. 22  
Buford Knoll & Yew Ridge: May 16, July 11, Sept. 5



### Upcoming CWPT Events...

#### JUNE 2009

#### 2009 Annual CWPT Conference

Our annual conference next year will be "The Fields of Gettysburg,"  
June 4-7th, 2009.

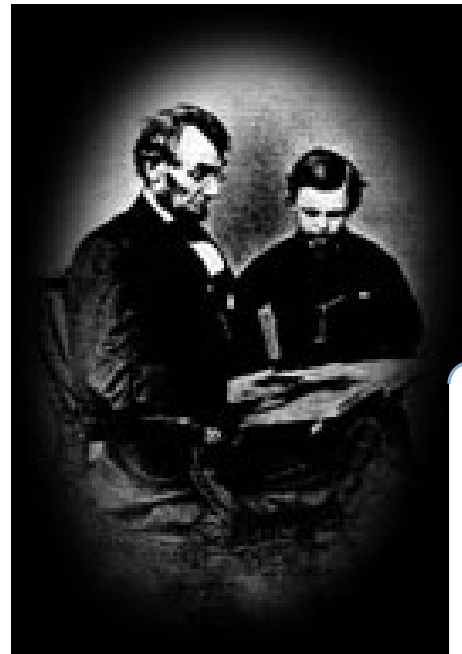
#### Cape May Civil War Round Table

c/o Pat Munson-Siter

42 Franklin Ave.

Villas, NJ 08251-2407

[www.cmccwrt.com](http://www.cmccwrt.com)



### Thirty acres of Civil War battlefield land are destroyed every day.

These battlefields are part of our national heritage; scenes of struggle and sacrifice where American soldiers lost their lives. CWPT is working to preserve these “hallowed grounds,” as Abraham Lincoln called them, so that future generations can learn from them and can learn to appreciate their hard-won freedom.



**CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST**  
Saving America's Threatened Civil War Battlefields

The Civil War Trails program has installed nearly 800 interpretive markers at Civil War sites in **Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee** and **North Carolina**. More Trails markers are expected soon in West Virginia. Driving tours following major campaigns have been created, and a series of regional brochures is available.

You can download pdf versions of the Trails maps from

[CivilWarTraveler.com/maps](http://CivilWarTraveler.com/maps).