

Cape May County Civil War Roundtable



Meetings for 2010:

Tentative Dates for 2010 Meetings

Please contact V.P. Gibson if you would be interested in giving any presentations at meetings in 2010.

Website: www.cmccwrt.com

15 April: Jim Stevens (director of Cold Spring Village) presenting on 29th NJ Regiment. **Refreshments:** Suzanne Gibson

20 May: Refreshments:

17 June: Refreshments: John McDonough

15 July: Refreshments:

19 August: Refreshments: Pat M-S

16 September: Refreshments:

21 October: Refreshments:

18 November: Refreshments:

? December: Refreshments

Officers for 2010 – 2011

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Minutes from our last meeting

President Lolli opened the meeting. We pledged allegiance to the flag & held a moment of silence for those standing in harm's way in order to protect us.

Pres. Lolli mentioned the refreshment list was at the desk and asked people to sign up. Need new head of refreshment committee.

Reminder that dues are due. No April newsletters for those who have not paid up.

Three guests were present at meeting and were introduced.

A copy of the *Civil War Book of Lists* was up as the reward for the donation drive tonight.

Motion made, seconded and accepted to purchase new paper products for our refreshments.

New business: The GAR of Cape May County at one point gave several Civil War swords to the Civil War Historic Genealogical Society. The Society has decided to sell most of them, despite objections. One of the visitors to the meeting tonight is associated with the Sons of Union Veterans and pointed out that the SUV, as inheritors to the GAR, might object to this, and suggested they be contacted.

The Cape May Historical Society is running a trip to Gettysburg this spring. Copies of info on the trip were at the front desk during the meeting.

Treasurer arrived and made his report; report accepted and filed for audit.

Meeting was adjourned so the presentation could begin.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Munson-Siter
CMCCWRT Secretary



1860

No Major Events

1861

- 6 Arkansas secedes
- 7 Tennessee negotiates alliance with Confederacy
- 20 North Carolina secedes
- 21 Confederate legislators vote to move capital to Richmond
- 23 Virginia secedes (after popular vote)
- 24 Union soldiers occupy Alexandria (VA)
- 6 Arkansas secedes

1862

- 4 Confederates evacuate Yorktown
- 5 Battle of Williamsburg (VA)
- 8 Battle of McDowell (VA)
- 15 Battle of Drewry's Bluff (VA)
- 23 Battle of Front Royal (VA)
- 25 Battle of Winchester (VA)
- 31 Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks) (VA)

1863

- 1-4 Battle of Chancellorsville
- 10 Stonewall Jackson dies
- 16 Battle of Champion's Hill (MS)

1864

- 5-6 Battle of the Wilderness (VA)
- 6 Atlanta Campaign opens
- 7-19 Battle of Spotsylvania (VA)
- 11 Battle of Yellow Tavern (VA)
- 12-13 Second Battle of Drewry's Bluff (VA)
- 15 Battle of New Market (VA)
- 24 Battle of the North Anna River (VA)

25-27 Battle of New Hope (GA)

1865

- 10 Confederate president Davis captured in Georgia
- 26 Smith surrenders Trans-Mississippi Confederate army



Χιπιλ Ωαρ Ρελατεδ Εσεντο Μαυ 2010

- 1 **VA** Car caravan tour, "Fleetwood Hill," on the Brandy Station battlefield. Begins at Graffiti House, 19484 Brandy Road, in Brandy Station. 10 am. \$10. 540-727-7718 or www.brandystationfoundation.com.
- 1 **VA** Living history, site tours, music and more during Civil War Day at Historic Blenheim & the Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Free. 703-591-0560.
- 1 **MD** Walking tour of Civil War Annapolis, covers the sites and stories of the Maryland capital. \$16. www.annapolistours.com or 800-569-9622.
- 1 **MD** Battlefield hikes on the Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick. Guided two-hour walks at 9 am, 11:30 am and 2 pm. Free. Reservations required: www.nps.gov/mono or 301-662-3515.
- 1-2 **MD** Hagerstown-area museum event, "Washington County Museums and Historic Sites Ramble," includes the Pry House Field Hospital Museum on the Antietam Battlefield. www.civilwarmed.org.
- 1-2 **PA** Reenactment, "The Appomattox Campaign," at Neshaminy State Park in Bensalem. Camps, demonstrations and battles each afternoon. Camps open 9 am-4 pm. www.dcnr.state.pa.us or www.28thpvi.org.
- 1-2 **VA** Living history, camp and demonstrations at Sky Meadows State Park near Delaplane. 10 am-4 pm. \$4 parking fee. 540-592-3556.
- 1-2 **VA** "Engineering at the Siege" special program at the Petersburg National Battlefield. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/pete or 804-732-3531.
- 1-2 **VA** Living history, "Prince William Prepares for War – Brentsville Civil War Weekend," camps, demonstrations and presentations about how this small community dealt with secession and the war. At the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre near Manassas. 11 am-5 pm. \$5. Directions, details: 703-365-7895 or www.pwcgov.org/brentsville.

- 1-2 **VA** Tour, "Chancellorsville: Lee's Greatest Victory," based in Fredericksburg. \$300. Details: www.civilwartours.org.
- 1-2 **DE** Living history, Civil War camp and demonstrations are part of Dover Days Festival in Dover. Free. More info: www.visitdover.com or 800-233-5368.
- 2 **VA** Book talk, "Best Little Stories from the Civil War," at the Manassas Museum. 2 pm. Free with admission. www.manassasmuseum.org.
- 3-9 **PA**
MD
WV
VA Bicycle tour, "Bike Through Hallowed Ground 2010," begins in Gettysburg, ends in Fredericksburg with many stops in between. Much more information, schedule and cost estimates: www.battlefieldbiking.com.
- 5-8 **VA** Tour, "The Seven Days from Savage Station to Malvern Hill," based in Richmond. www.blueandgrayeducation.org.
- 6 **VA** Living history, "Sewing Circle," 19th-century techniques at the Bushong House in the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park in New Market. 10 am-4 pm. Free with admission. www.vmi.edu/newmarket or 866-515-1864.
- 7 **MD** Ladies' Tea at the Gambrill Mansion on the Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick. 19th-century life and culture plus refreshments and tours of the mansion. 1 pm. Reservations required: www.nps.gov/mono or 301-662-3515.
- 7-8 **PA** Seminar, "Meade and the Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg," includes discussions, living history and bus tour with Ed Bearss. Based in Chambersburg. Registration, details: www.chambersburgcivilwarseminars.org.
- 8-9 **VA** Living history, Civil War camps, exhibits and demonstrations part of the Fort Clifton Festival in Colonial Heights. Directions: www.colonial-heights.com/FortCliftonFestival.htm.
- 13-16 **NC** Tour, "Civil War in North Carolina," led by A. Wilson Greene. Leaves from Pamplin Historical Park in Petersburg VA. Reservations and fee required. 877-PAMPLIN or www.pamplinpark.org.
- 15 **DC**
MD
VA Bus tour, "Booth's Escape Route," with Ed Bearss. A Smithsonian tour. Leaves from DC. www.residentassociates.org (Study Tours).
- 15 **MD** "Garden Party," at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum near Keedysville. 19th-century gardening techniques. 9 am-3 pm. Museum charge. www.civilwarmed.org or 301-416-2395.
- 15 **PA** Living history, "Army Heritage Day," at the U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center in Carlisle. Demonstrations from all periods including Civil War. 9 am-5 pm. www.usahec.org.
- 15 **VA** Walking tour of Fort Huger on the James River near Smithfield and Route 10. Street address: 15080 Talcott Terrace, Smithfield. 2 pm. Free. 757-357-0115.
- 15 **VA** Car caravan tour, "Buford Knoll & Yew Ridge," on the Brandy Station battlefield. Begins at Graffiti House, 19484 Brandy Road, in Brandy Station. 10 am. \$10. 540-727-7718 or www.brandystationfoundation.com.
- 15 **VA** Living history, "Falls Church Civil War Day," civilian and military camps and demonstrations, tours and more at Cherry Hill Park, 312 Park Ave, Falls Church. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 703-248-5171.
- 15 **VA** Parade and ceremony, "Battle of New Market Day Parade," honors fallen cadets at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington. 2 pm. Free. 540-464-7313.
- 15 **VA** "African Americans at City Point," special program at the Grant's Headquarters (City Point, Hopewell) unit of the Petersburg National Battlefield. Free. www.nps.gov/pete or 804-732-3531.
- 15 **VA** Walking tour, "Jefferson Davis's Richmond," downtown tour begins at the Museum of the Confederacy. Noon. \$10. Reservations: 804-649-1861 extension 37.
- 15 **VA** Self-guided tours of the First Battle of Kernstown at Rose Hill, a critical part of that battlefield near Winchester. Site at 1850 Jones Road is open 1-4 pm. \$5. www.shenandoahmuseum.org or 540-662-1473 extension 235.
- 15 **VA** Van tour, "In the Footsteps of the Gray Ghost: Col. John S. Mosby," leaves from the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre near Manassas (subject to change) 8 am-5 pm. \$85/includes lunch and admissions. Reservations: 703-365-7895.
- 15 **VA** Van Tour, "The Bermuda Hundred Campaign," leaves from Lee Hall Mansion in Newport News. 8 am-4 pm. \$50. Reservations necessary. www.leehall.org or 757-888-3371.
- 15-16 **MD** Living history, artillery camp and demonstrations at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/anti or 301-432-5124.
- 15-16 **VA** Anniversary programs with living history, talks and tours at Drewry's Bluff a unit of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. 10 am-5 pm Saturday, 10 am-4 pm Sunday. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145.
- 15-16 **VA** Reenactment, "Battle of New Market," big annual event on the historic battlefield. Camps, demonstrations and battles 2 pm Saturday and 1:30 pm Sunday. Camps open 10 am each day. \$10/adult each day. 866-515-1864 or www.vmi.edu/newmarket.
- 16 **VA** Living history, infantry and artillery drills at Brawner Farm, the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Camps and demonstrations. 1-2 pm. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/mana or 703-361-1339.
- 16 **VA** Walking tour, "Freedman's Farm Tour and

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| | | Confederate Winter Camp Site," at Montpelier, home of James Madison near Orange. 2 pm. Site admission applies. 540-672-2728 or www.montpelier.org . | | | River just off Route 5 between Williamsburg and Richmond. Camps, living history, tours and talks 10 am-4 pm both days. Battles both days. Saturday night artillery firing. \$10/adult daily. Details, directions: www.fortpocahontas.org . |
| 19-23 | VA | Living history, North-South Skirmish Association's live-fire national competition at Fort Shenandoah near Winchester. Spectators welcome. Free. Details, directions: www.n-ssa.org . | 22-23 | VA | Reenactment, "The Battles of Spotsylvania," near Spotsylvania Courthouse. Camps, demonstrations, music, displays and battles both days. Camps open 9 am-5 pm Saturday, noon-4 pm Sunday. Benefit bluegrass concert Saturday 6-10 pm (additional fee). \$10/at gate. Advance ticket discounts, directions and more info: www.spotsylvania.org/2010.htm . |
| 21 | PA | Special programs, "Understanding the Common Soldier of the Civil War" and "Women on the Homefront," at the Blue Ridge Summit Library, 15055 Summit Plaza, Blue Ridge Summit. 6:30 pm. Free. www.emmitsburg.net/montereyypass . | 22-23 | VA | Living history at the Five Forks unit of the Petersburg National Battlefield. Camps and demonstrations. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/pete or 804-732-3531. |
| 22 | MD | Living history, "Confederate Surgeon," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 11 am-3 pm. Free with admission. www.civilwarmed.org or 301-695-1864. | 28-29 | VA | Civil War Show, tables of relics, books and more for show and sale at the Fredericksburg Fairgrounds, 2400 Airport Ave. 9 am-5 pm. \$5. www.emstat.net (click on events) or 540-972-2749. |
| 22 | MD | Living history, "Ship's Company," life in the Civil War navy at the USS <i>Constellation</i> in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. 10 am-4 pm. Free with admission. www.historicships.org or 410-539-1797. | 29 | VA | Car caravan tour, "Beverly Ford and St. James Church," on the Brandy Station battlefield. Begins at Graffiti House, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. 10 am. \$10. 540-727-7718 or www.brandystationfoundation.com . |
| 22 | VA | Living history tour, "Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee," in Atoka. Lantern tours and tales of Mosby's Confederacy. Tours begin at the Rector House, 1461 Atoka Road (just off Route 50 on Route 713) 7:30 pm. \$5. www.mosbyheritagearea.org or 540-687-6681. | 29 | VA | Illumination, annual event with more than 15,000 candles at the Fredericksburg National Cemetery. 8-11 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp . |
| 22 | VA | Walking tours, guided tours of the 1862 and 1863 battlefields at the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, 10708 Bristow Road, Bristow. Tours start on the hour 11 am-noon and 1-4 pm. \$5. www.pwcgov.org/historicsites or 703-792-5546. | 29-30 | VA | Living history, infantry camp and drills at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 11 am-2 pm. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/mana or 703-361-1339. |
| 22 | VA | Unearthing Tredegar: An Archeological Tour," at the American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar in Richmond. 2-4 pm. Free with admission. www.tredegar.org or 804-780-1865. | 29-30 | VA | Living history, "Meet Mr. and Mrs. Grant," at the Grant's Headquarters (City Point, Hopewell) unit of the Petersburg National Battlefield. 10 am-4 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/pete or 804-732-3531. |
| 22 | PA | "An Evening with the Painting," a history of the Cyclorama painting at the Gettysburg National Military Park's Museum and Visitor Center. 6-8:30 pm. Tickets: www.gettysburgfoundation.org or 877-874-2478. | 29-30 | VA | Living history, Memorial Day Civil War events at Ferry Farm, George Washington's Boyhood home across the river from downtown Fredericksburg. www.ferryfarm.org . |
| 22-23 | NY | Reenactment, "Fire on the Genessee," at Letchworth State Park in Mt. Morris. Camps, demonstrations, battles at 1:30 pm Saturday and 2 pm Sunday. Details, directions: www.fireonthegenessee.com . | 29-30 | VA | Living history, "Civil War Weekend" at the Yorktown Battlefield. Camps, displays, demonstrations and wreath layings. Free with park fee. www.nps.gov/colo or 757-898-2410. |
| 22-23 | NY | Living history, "Ashokan Civil War Days," at the Ashokan Center in Olivebridge. Camps, demonstrations, music and more commemorate the surrender at Appomattox. www.ashokancenter.org or www.ashokancivilwardays.com . | 29-31 | MD | Memorial flag display with special programs and activities at the Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick. www.nps.gov/mono . |
| 23-23 | VA | Living history at the Miller-Kite House (Jackson's Headquarters) in Elkton. Camp and demonstrations. 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-2 pm Sunday. Free. 540-298-1717. | 30 | VA | Living history, speeches and more in the Confederate Section of Old City Cemetery in Lynchburg. 3 pm. Free. www.gravegarden.org or 434-847-1465. |
| 23-23 | VA | Reenactment, "Fort Pocahontas," on the James | 31 | VA | Memorial Day observance with living history at Groveton Confederate Cemetery and New York Avenue, the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Noon. www.nps.gov/mana or 703-361-1339. |

- 31 **VA** Memorial Day program at the Fort Harrison National Cemetery east of Richmond. Noon. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145.
- 31 **PA** Memorial Day Parade and ceremony in Gettysburg. Parade (2 pm) followed by ceremony at the Soldiers' National Cemetery. www.nps.gov/gett.



In Va., Wal-Mart in Civil War battle

Historians up in arms over Wilderness supercenter.

By Steve Szkotak
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCUST GROVE, Va. — Wal-Mart wants to build a Supercenter within a cannon-shot of where Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant first fought, a proposal that has preservationists rallying to protect the Civil War site.

A who's who of historians including filmmaker Ken Burns and Pulitzer Prize winner David McCullough sent a letter last month to H. Lee Scott, president and CEO of Wal-Mart Stores Inc., urging the company to build somewhere farther from the Wilderness Battlefield.

"The Wilderness is an indelible part of our history, its very ground hallowed by the American blood spilled there, and it cannot be moved," said the letter from 253 scholars and others.

Wal-Mart and its supporters point out that the 138,000-square-foot store would be right behind a bank and a small strip mall, a full mile from the entrance to the site of the 1864 clash that left thousands dead and hastened the war's end.

Local leaders also want the \$500,000 in annual tax revenue they estimate the big box store will generate for rural Orange County, a gradually growing area about 60 miles southwest of Washington.

"In these economic times, the fact that Wal-Mart wants to come into the county is an economic plus," said R. Mark Johnson, a tire-shop owner and chairman of the county's Board of Supervisors. "This is hardly pristine wilderness we're talking about."

Grant's Union troops were headed to Richmond on May 4, 1864, when they confronted Lee's Confederate Army of Northern Virginia.

The Battle of the Wilderness involved

more than 100,000 Union troops and 61,000 Confederate soldiers. The fighting, according to National Park Service estimates, left more than 4,000 dead and 20,000 wounded.

About 2,700 acres of the Wilderness Battlefield are protected as part of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park.

Preservationists regularly square off against developers in Virginia, where much of the Civil War was fought.

This dispute, however, has stirred an outcry similar to the one in 1994 over the Walt Disney Co.'s plans to build a \$650 million theme park within miles of the Manassas Battlefield. The entertainment giant bowed to public pressure and abandoned the project.

Bentonville, Ark.-based Wal-Mart said it studied a lengthy list of sites in Orange County before settling on the spot near the battlefield and its gentle hills dissected by neat footpaths.

"We recognize the significance of the Wilderness Battlefield, but we are not building on the battlefield," said Keith Morris, a spokesman for the world's largest retailer.

Preservationists argue the store site is still significant because it was used as a staging area by Union troops.

"Is it blood-soaked ground? No, but it is a part of the battlefield," said Jim Campi, a spokesman for the Civil War Preservation Trust, which lists the Wilderness Battlefield as endangered.

Supervisors will have the final say, after county planners decide if the retailer should be granted a zoning variance. Hearings likely will be scheduled in February and March.

