



**Cape May County Civil War Round Table  
August 2011 Newsletter**

If you end up missing a copy of the newsletter, or the post office tears your copy up, digital copies are posted on the Round Table website (cmccwrt.com).

**2011 Meeting Schedule**

**18 August:** Hank Heacock will be telling us about the Presidential Election of 1860, and discussing all the cross currents that were factors in the outbreak of the Civil War. **Refreshments:** Judy & John  
**15 September:** Refreshments: John Burke  
**20 October:** Refreshments: Judy & John  
**17 November**  
December date to be determined

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**Minutes of the Business Meeting of the  
Cape May Civil War Round Table  
21 July 2011**

President Lolli called the meeting to order. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for those serving our country. There were several guests at this meeting, and Pres. Lolli had them introduce themselves.

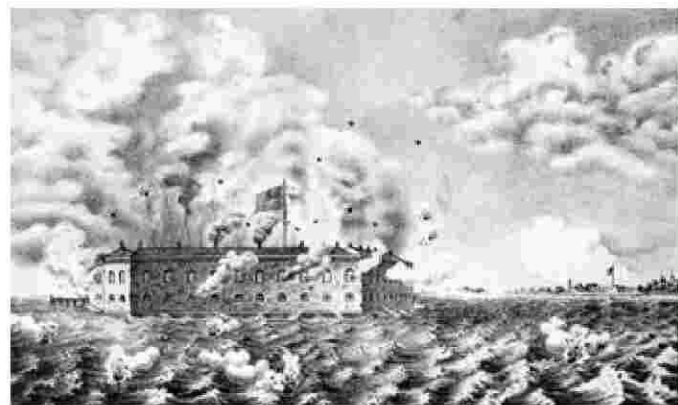
Treasurer Marshall read the treasurer's report. Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the report and file for audit. Rent is due on our safety deposit box. Motion made and passed to pay the rent.

Reminder that the newsletter is now available online. Please send Treasurer Marshall your email address so he can send you an email notification / link to the newsletter. Also, let Pat Munson-Siter know if you do NOT want to receive a hard copy of the newsletter. Not making and mailing copies will save the Round Table money, and will relieve the problems with newsletters arriving in poor condition.

There being no further business, Pres. Lolli adjourned the meeting and introduced our visiting lecturer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Munson-Siter  
Secretary



**Bombardment of Fort Sumter**

**Civil War Milestones = August**

**1861**

6 – Union troops take Paducah (KY)

**1862**

1 – Battle of Chantilly, VA

5 – Lee crosses the Potomac into Maryland  
 14 – Battles at South Mountain, MD  
 15 – Harpers Ferry falls to Confederates  
 17 – Battle of Antietam  
 22 – Lincoln issues preliminary Emancipation Proclamation

### 1863

7 – Ft. Wagner (SC) occupied by Union troops  
 19 – 20 – Battle of Chicamauga (GA)

### 1864

2 – Union troops occupy Atlanta  
 19 – Third battle of Winchester  
 22 – Battle of Fisher's Hill, VA  
 29 – Battle of Ft. Harrison/Chaffin's Farm, VA



Battle of Lexington, Missouri

## Civil War Related Events in August 2011

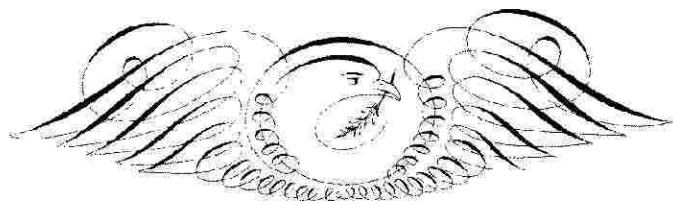
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| <p>2 <b>VA</b> Walking tour, guided Civil War tour of downtown Winchester. Meets at 2 N Cameron St at 6 pm. \$5. 540-542-1326.</p> <p>3 <b>MD</b> Tour, "John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tour," based at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 7:30 am-7:30 pm. \$75. Details, registration info: <a href="http://www.surratt.org">www.surratt.org</a>.</p> <p>3 <b>VA</b> Car-caravan tour, "Battle of Brandy Station (Buford Knoll &amp; Yew Ridge)" begins at the Graffiti House Visitor Center, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. 10 am. \$10. <a href="http://www.brandystationfoundation.com">www.brandystationfoundation.com</a>.</p> <p>3-4 <b>MD</b> Living history, "Before the Storm," focus is on the citizens of Sharpsburg prior to the Battle of Antietam. Programs at various places on the Antietam National Battlefield. Free with park admission. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/anti">www.nps.gov/anti</a>.</p> <p>3-4 <b>VA</b> Reenactment, "Battle of Buckland Races (1863)," at Buckland Farm, 6342 Pleasant Colony Lane, near Warrenton. More info: 703-754-4000.</p> <p>3-4 <b>PA</b> Living history, camps and demonstrations at several locations in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. <a href="http://www.nps.gov/gett">www.nps.gov/gett</a> or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.</p> | <p>6 <b>VA</b> Video, "Virginia in the Civil War: A Sesquicentennial Remembrance," session one covers the early war at Hanover Tavern, 13181 Hanover Courthouse Road (Route 301) 7-9 pm. \$3 donation. <a href="http://www.hanovertavern.org">www.hanovertavern.org</a>.</p> <p>8 <b>VA</b> Lecture, "Stuck in the Mud, Stung by Defeat: The Union Army in Stafford," at the England Run Branch Library, 806 Lyons Blvd, Stafford (north of Fredericksburg). 7 pm. Free. 540-899-1703.</p> <p>9 <b>VA</b> "Sunset at Sandusky," evening lawn party at Historic Sandusky in Lynchburg. Food, music and speech by Dr. James Robertson. More info: <a href="http://www.historicsandusky.org">www.historicsandusky.org</a>.</p> <p>9 <b>VA</b> Lecture, "Capt. Sally Tompkins and Robertson Hospital," at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. Noon. Free. <a href="http://www.moc.org">www.moc.org</a>.</p> <p>9 <b>VA</b> Living history, "Life of a Civil War Soldier," demonstrations for all ages at Washington Monument State Park near Boonsboro. Noon. Parking fee. 301-432-8065.</p> <p>10 <b>DC</b> Georgetown Civil War House &amp; Walking Tours, offered by Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, 1644 31st St NW, Washington. Special house tour 10:30 am, Georgetown walking tour 12:30 pm. \$10/each, \$15 for both. 202-965-0400 or <a href="http://www.tudorplace.org">www.tudorplace.org</a>.</p> <p>10 <b>MD</b> Lecture, "Confederate Medical Service," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 11 am. Free with admission. <a href="http://www.civilwarmed.org">www.civilwarmed.org</a>.</p> <p>10 <b>MD</b> Tour, "John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tour," based at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 7:30 am-7:30 pm. \$75. Details, registration info: <a href="http://www.surratt.org">www.surratt.org</a>.</p> <p>10 <b>VA</b> Walking tour, "Butler's Offensive at Point of Rocks." See this important Bermuda Hundred Campaign site. Begins at Point of Rocks Park, 201 Enon Church Road, Chester (south of Richmond). 2-4 pm. \$8. Reservations: <a href="http://www.chesterfieldhistory.com">www.chesterfieldhistory.com</a>.</p> <p>10 <b>VA</b> Walking tour, "Architecture, Communities, Civil War and Emancipation: Poplar Lawn Historic District" in Petersburg. Meets at 236 Harrison St. 11 am and 1:30 pm. Free. 804-732-3531 extension 222.</p> <p>10 <b>VA</b> Walking tour, guided tour of the Kernstown Battlefield begins at visitor center, 610 Battle Park Drive, south of Winchester just off Route 11. 11 am. Free. <a href="http://www.kernstownbattle.org">www.kernstownbattle.org</a>.</p> <p>10 <b>VA</b> Mosby Ranger Descendant Reunion with first-person stories, book signings. Open to public at the Inn at Kelly's Ford in Remington. 10 am-4 pm \$55. Details, registration: <a href="http://www.mosbyheritagearea.org">www.mosbyheritagearea.org</a>.</p> <p>10 <b>VA</b> Tour, "The Deadliest Enemy," at the Ben Lomond Historic Site, 10321 Sudley Manor Drive, Manassas. Soldiers continued to die from disease long after the battle. 11 am-3 pm. \$7. 703-367-7872.</p> <p>10 <b>VA</b> Adult's Night Out: Civil War living history, music, wine and more at the Chapman/Beverly Mill near Haymarket. 7-10 pm. \$15. Reservations: <a href="http://www.chapmansmill.org">www.chapmansmill.org</a> or 540-253-5888.</p> <p>10-11 <b>NY</b> Living history, exhibit and more at "Johnsburg Goes to War, 1861-1865." Camps and demonstrations at the Ski Bowl Park plus exhibit and talks at the Tannery Pond Community Center, 228 Main St — all in North Creek. \$10/adult. Details, tickets: 518-251-5788.</p> |
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- 10-11 **PA** Living history, camps and demonstrations at several locations in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett) or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 10-11 **MD** Living history, "Communications and Overlooks," at Washington Monument State Park near Boonsboro. Learn about the role of this high ground during the war with talks and demonstrations. Begins 10 am. 301-432-8065.
- 10-11 **VA** Living history, camps and artillery demonstrations commemorating the battle at Totopotomoy Creek. Event at Rural Plains, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park, 7273 Studley Road. 10 am-4 pm. Free. [www.nps.gov/rich](http://www.nps.gov/rich).
- 10-11 **VA** Walking tours, "Bristoe Station Battlefields," at the battlefield park, 10708 Bristow Road, Bristow (near Manassas). 11 am-3 pm. \$5/adult. 703-792-5546.
- 11 **VA** Living history, infantry camp and demonstrations at the Brawner Farm in the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 10 am-2 pm. Free with park fee. [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).
- 11-12 **VA** Reenactment, "Battles of Front Royal and Luray," at Luray Caverns, 970 Route 211 West, Luray. Camps and demonstrations with battles each day. Latest info: [www.luraycaverns.com](http://www.luraycaverns.com).
- 13 **VA** Video, "Virginia in the Civil War: A Sesquicentennial Remembrance," session two covers mid-late war at Hanover Tavern, 13181 Hanover Courthouse Road (Route 301) 7-9 pm. \$3 donation. [www.hanovertavern.org](http://www.hanovertavern.org).
- 14 **DC** Seminar, "Songs and Stories from the Civil War," with Bobby Horton at the S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive SW, Washington. 6:45-9 pm. \$40. A Smithsonian program. [www.residentassociates.org](http://www.residentassociates.org).
- 14 **VA** Lecture, "The Forgotten People: Free Blacks of Virginia," at Baine's Books and Coffee, 205 Main St., in Appomattox. 12:15 pm. Free. [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org).
- 14 **MD** Walking tours, anniversary "real time" walks on the South Mountain State Battlefield near Boonsboro. Fox's Gap begins at 10 am and Crampton's Gap at 3 pm. Details: 301-432-8065.
- 15 **VA**  150 Lecture, "Virginia Divided: The Forgotten First Campaign," at the Library of Virginia, 800 E Broad St, Richmond. Noon. Free. 804-692-3592 or [www.lva.virginia.gov](http://www.lva.virginia.gov).
- 16 **VA** Walking tour, guided Civil War tour of downtown Winchester. Meets at 2 N Cameron St at 6 pm. \$5. 540-542-1326.
- 16-18 **MD** Anniversary activities commemorating the Battle of Antietam at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Special ranger-led hikes, concerts, living history and much more. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti).
- 16 **VA** Lunch talk, "Captain Sally Tompkins," at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. Noon. Free with admission. [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org) or 804-649-1861.
- 17 **PA** "An Evening with the Painting," a special program at the Gettysburg Cyclorama. 6-7:30 pm. \$30. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org).
- 17 **PA** Seminar, "They Too Fought Here: The Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign," at the Gettysburg National Military Park. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org).
- 17 **DC** Living history walking tour, "Courage! The Civil War in Washington, 1861, The Storm Begins." Meets 11 am at 10th and E streets NW (Cosi Coffee). \$10/adult. No reservations necessary. [www.historicstrolls.com](http://www.historicstrolls.com) or 301-588-9255.
- 17 **MD** Tour, "John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tour," based at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 7:30 am-7:30 pm. \$75. Details, registration info: [www.surratt.org](http://www.surratt.org).
- 17 **VA** Bus tour, "Mosby's Confederacy," day-long tour includes Northern Virginia sites in Front Royal, Flint Hill, Little Washington and more. Leaves from Truro Rectory at 8:30 am. \$75. Reservations: 703-971-4984.
- 17 **VA** Living history, "Sunday School Fair," a 19th-century celebration at the New Market State Historical Park in New Market. 11 am-4 pm. Free with admission. [www.vmi.edu/newmarket](http://www.vmi.edu/newmarket) or 866-515-1864.
- 17 **VA** Walking tour, "Middletown in the Civil War," NPS ranger-guided tour begins at the Farmer's Market 11 am. Free. [www.nps.gov/cebe](http://www.nps.gov/cebe) or 540-860-3051.
- 17 **VA** Walking tour, "Fort Huger," Confederate fort on the James River (15080 Talcott Terrace, Smithfield, follow signs from Route 10). 10 am. Free. 757-357-0115.
- 17 **VA** Walking tour, "When the Lights Go Out: Death, Sin and Slavery in Richmond," begins at Main Street Station in Shockoe Bottom in Richmond. 10:30 am. Reservations: 8-4-649-1861 extension 22.
- 17 **VA** Van tour, "Beyond the Battlefield: Civil War Sites in Prince William County (near Manassas)" includes Brentsville, Liberia Plantation, Chapman's Mill and more. Leaves from the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Road, Bristow. 9 am-5 pm. \$80. 703-365-7895.
- 17-18 **VA** Living history, infantry camp and demonstrations at the Brawner Farm in the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 10 am-4 pm. Free with park fee. [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).
- 17-18 **MD** Anniversary activities at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum on the Antietam National Battlefield. Focus on Civil War medicine with living history. 11 am-5 pm. Free with admission. [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org).
- 17-18 **PA** Living history, camps and demonstrations at several locations in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett) or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 18 **VA** Brandy Station Festival. Annual fundraiser for the Brandy Station Battlefield Foundation with living history, music and more at Old House Vineyards, 18351 Corkys Lane, Culpeper VA. \$25. [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com).
- 18 **VA** Walking tour, Fort Boykin, 7410 Fort Boykin Trail, on the James River near Smithfield. 3 pm. Free. 757-357-0115.
- 18 **MD** Book talk and signing, "Antietam Veterans in Their Own Words," at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. 2 pm. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti).
- 18 **PA** Walking tour, "New Jersey in the Civil War: Remembering the Boys Beyond the Blue River," at Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia. 2 pm. \$15. [www.thelaurelhillcemetery.org](http://www.thelaurelhillcemetery.org).
- 22 **VA** Lecture, "Fire Eaters at War," at the University of Richmond's Keller Hall. Sponsored by the Museum of the Confederacy. 7:30 pm. Free. Reservations required:



- 804-649-1861 extension 41 or online at [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org).
- 23 **VA** Symposium, "Henrico County — Gateway to Richmond," authors and speakers talk about the county north and east of Richmond at the Henrico Theater, 305 Nine Mile Road, Highland Springs. 10 am-5 pm. Free. [www.henrico400th.com](http://www.henrico400th.com) or 804-501-1611.
- 24 **MD** Living history, "Ship's Company," see Union seamen at work on the USS Constellation in Baltimore Harbor. 10 am-4 pm Free with admission. [www.historicships.org](http://www.historicships.org).
- 24 **MD** Ranger tour, "Monument Walk," preservation and other issues on the Antietam National Battlefield. 2 pm. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti).
- 24 **PA** Seminar, "They Too Fought Here: The Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign," at the Gettysburg National Military Park. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org).
- 24 **VA** Lecture, "Battle of New Market Heights: The Forgotten Fourteen," at the Eastern Front visitor center, Petersburg National Battlefield. 10 am and 2 pm. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/pete](http://www.nps.gov/pete).
- 24 **VA** Walking tour, guided Civil War tour of Stephens City. Begins at 10:30 am at 5408 Main St. \$5. 540-869-1700.
- 24 **VA** Living history, parade, tours, Civil War demonstrations and much more during "Warrenton-Fauquier Heritage Day in downtown Warrenton. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 540-341-7019.
- 24 **VA** Bus tour covers Hanover County battlefields north of Richmond. Begins-ends at Hanover Tavern, 13181 Hanover Courthouse Road (Route 301) 8:30 am-noon. \$75 includes breakfast and lunch. [www.hanovertavern.org](http://www.hanovertavern.org).
- 24 **VA** Living history, music, food and more during "Voices of Freedom" in downtown Gloucester. Civilian and military camps, demonstrations and commemoration of Gloucester's Medal of Honor recipient. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 804-693-2355.
- 24 **VA** Living history, camps, demonstrations and exhibits at Tree Hill Farm, 6404 Osborne Turnpike, just east of Richmond. Includes Medal of Honor and Richmond surrender commemoration. 10 am-3 pm. Free. [www.henrico400th.com](http://www.henrico400th.com) or 804-501-1611.
- 24 **VA** Living history, cavalry demonstrations and reenactment of the Battle of Buckland Races at Buckland Farm, 6342 Pleasant Colony Lane, near Warrenton. 3-6 pm. \$10/adult. More info: 703-754-4000.
- 24-25 **VA** Living history commemorating the Potomac River Blockade at Leesylvania State Park in Woodbridge and at various locations in Dumfries. 10 am-4 pm. Parking fee for the state park. 703-221-3346.
- 24-25 **VA** Anniversary living history camps, ranger-led tours and demonstrations at Fort Harrison, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park southeast of Richmond. 10 am-4 pm. Free. [www.nps.gov/rich](http://www.nps.gov/rich).
- 24-25 **VA** Walking tours, "Bristoe Station Battlefields," at the battlefield park, 10708 Bristow Road, Bristow (near Manassas). 11 am-3 pm. \$5/adult. 703-792-5546.
- 24-25 **MD** Living history, "Artillery at Antietam," camps and demonstrations at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Union Saturday, Confederate Sunday. Free with park admission. [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti).
- 24-25 **PA** Living history, camps and demonstrations at several locations in the Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett) or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 25 **VA** Lecture, "Fauquier County in 1860 and 1861," at the Graffiti House Visitor Center, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. 2 pm. Free. Donations welcome. [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com).
- 28 **VA** Gallery Walk, "The Civil War in Virginia: The Emancipation Proclamation," at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond. Noon. \$6/adult. [www.vahistorical.org](http://www.vahistorical.org).
- 29 **VA** Workshop, "Researching Your African American Ancestors: Genealogy to 1870," at the Library of Virginia, 800 E Broad St, Richmond. 10 am-noon. Free. Registration required: 804-371-2126.
- 30 **VA** Lecture, "Along the Dare Mark Line," at the Graffiti House Visitor Center, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. 2 pm. Free. Donations welcome. [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com).
- 30-Oct 1 **PA** Seminar and tour, "The Opening Guns: War Comes to Maryland and Washington DC," based in Chambersburg PA. [www.civilwarseminars.org](http://www.civilwarseminars.org).
- 30-Oct 2 **MD** Conference on Civil War Medicine in Towson. Includes lectures and bus tour. Details: 301-695-1864 or email [museum@civilwarmed.org](mailto:museum@civilwarmed.org).
- 30-Oct 2 **VA** Conference, "Cavalry of the North and South," sponsored by the Mosby Heritage Area, headquartered in Middleburg. Conference includes speakers, tour. Details, registration: [www.mosbyheritagearea.org](http://www.mosbyheritagearea.org).



## Reviews

A while back, I asked for members to submit reviews of civil war related books, DVDs, etc. that they've read, watched, etc. So far I haven't received anything from the membership, so will start this off with a review of my own. Please, anyone is welcome to send me (email is probably best, but snail mail or handing me something at a meeting will work, too.) reviews! And this includes NEGATIVE reviews as well – if there is a Civil War book or movie, etc. you didn't like, tell us about it and why you didn't find it useful. There's so much material out there on the Civil War, I think that reviews by members will help others decide if a particular book, etc. is worth the time and perhaps money to acquire a copy....

## From THE GREAT COURSES: The American Civil War Professor Gary W. Gallagher

I've mentioned in a past newsletter that "The Great Courses/The Teaching Company" has several classes on Civil War



subjects. So far I have three of them, and have finished one of them. These courses can be obtained in either DVD or CD format. Their email address is [www.thegreatcourses.com](http://www.thegreatcourses.com). While the full price on their courses is several hundred dollars, if you wait until the classes you are interested in come up on sale, most of the Civil War ones can be had for as little as \$50. DVD versions normally cost more than CDs. Check out the website for more information. Note, you aren't going to earn any academic credits for completing these courses; and there are no tests or exams... these lessons are for those who want to learn more about the subjects the company presents lessons on.

"The American Civil War" consists of 48 30-minute lectures, as well as a small information booklet that basically gives you an overview of each lecture as well as a few illustrations and maps. I have the 24-disk CD version, and for this class, the CDs work fine; you really don't need any visuals for most of the lectures. I found it very easy to listen to the classes in my car as I drove back and forth to work.

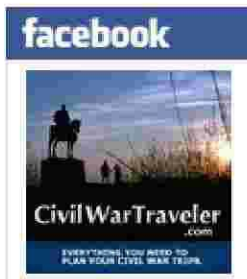
Professor Gallagher is the University of Virginia's John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War, has written more than 100 books and articles on the subject, has won the Lincoln Prize and the William Woods Hassler Award for contributions to Civil War Studies. In other words, he knows the subject forward and back, and he also is a skilled lecturer – he is able to keep a student's attention, and make the subject very interesting.

With 48 lessons, Professor Gallagher has lots of time to cover many subjects related to the War, from the background politics through what is known of the personalities of many of the people involved, not just battles but the results of those battles on civilians north and south, reactions from Europe, and all sorts of other subjects. He covers the naval side of the battle, talks about the affect of the railroads on the conflict (as well as how the war affected the railroads), what was going on back home both north and south... he covered subjects I've never really thought about in relation to the Civil War.

However, the very wide breadth of this subject matter is in a way the cause of one thing I found where the class fell a bit short. It covers so much material that Prof. Gallagher can't go into lots of details about any one particular subject. I would have loved to have had more information on the railroads, for example; and the material on the naval side of the war was only wetting the student's toe in the sea of that subject. It certainly made me want to find out more about those and other subjects, which is certainly a good mark on the Professor's part!

Even if you already know a fair amount about the Civil War, I'm sure you'll find material in these lectures that will either be new to you, or show you a new side to a subject you already knew about. I think other students of the Civil War will find this overview of the American Civil War to be well worth the time and money it will take to acquire and listen to it.

**More Podcasts from  
[www.civilwartraveler.com](http://www.civilwartraveler.com)**



## Appomattox Court House

The dignified surrender of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia to Union Gen. U.S. Grant at Appomattox is one of the most dramatic and familiar moments in American history. Yet little is known about the event beyond the April 9, 1865, meeting between the generals in the McLean house parlor.



McLean House

This walking tour sheds light on other moving moments in the days following that meeting and describes the town that found itself in the national spotlight.

5-stop walking tour, approximately 45 minutes

Narration: Patrick Schroeder, Appomattox Court House NHP historian

Introduction: Marc Ramsey (**Owens and Ramsey Books**)

Music: **Al Neale**

Production: **CivilWarTraveler.com** and the **Appomattox Court House National Historical Park**

Playing time: 23:55 minutes

File size: 5.5 MB

## Bentonville NC Battlefield

Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston saw an opportunity to at least slow down Gen. William T. Sherman's 60,000-man Union army as it marched through North Carolina in March 1865. The Confederates set a trap for Sherman near the tiny hamlet of Bentonville, but the resulting battle, March 19-21, 1865, turned out to be a decisive Union victory. This driving tour covers the turning points of the battle, the largest fought in North Carolina.



5-stop driving tour, approximately one hour

Narration: Fred Burgess, Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site

Introduction: Marc Ramsey (**Owens and Ramsey Books**)

Music: Wayne Erbsen (**Native Ground Music**)

Production: **CivilWarTraveler.com** and **Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site**

Playing time: 21:25 minutes

File Size: 4.9 MB

## The Wheatfield at Gettysburg

The fighting in the Wheatfield at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863, was some of the most intense and confusing of the war. Gettysburg



Wheatfield at Gettysburg



park historian Eric Campbell leads us through the bloody back-and-forth action.

7-stop walking tour, approximately 90 minutes

Narration: Eric Campbell, Gettysburg National Military Park

Introduction: John Fieseler

Music: Chris Jackson [**Chris Jackson Music**]

Production: Production: **CivilWarTraveler.com** and **Gettysburg National Military Park**

Playing time: 41 minutes

File size: 10.1 MB

### **The Battle for Burnside Bridge, the Union Advance Antietam National Battlefield**

This tour follows the opening attack on the Confederate right flank during the Battle of Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862. The focal point of the attack and the tour is the Burnside Bridge, one of the most famous Civil War landmarks. The Confederate defenders managed to hold out here for more than four hours against repeated Union assaults.



**Burnside Bridge, Antietam**

7-stop walking tour, approximately 60 minutes

Narration: Keith Snyder, Antietam National Battlefield

Introduction: John Fieseler

Music: **Al Neale**

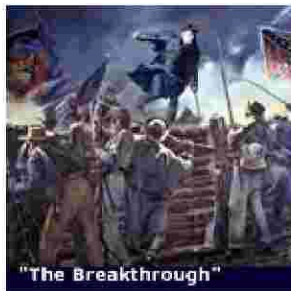
Production: **CivilWarTraveler.com** and **Antietam National Battlefield**

Playing time: 29:13 minutes

File size: 6.9MB

### **The Breakthrough at Petersburg, April 2, 1865 Pamplin Historical Park**

After more than nine months of trench warfare around Petersburg, Virginia, Union commander U.S. Grant ordered an all-out attack against Robert E. Lee's lines at dawn April 2, 1865. This walking tour of Pamplin Historical Park's Breakthrough Trail covers a critical area of that assault and offers a good look at part of the well-preserved Confederate defensive line.



**"The Breakthrough"**

6-stop walking tour, approximately 60 minutes

Narration: Will Greene, president of Pamplin Historical Park

Introduction: Marc Ramsey, **Owens and Ramsey Books**

Music: **Al Neale**

Production: CivilWarTraveler.com and Pamplin Historical Park

Playing time: 29:20 minutes

File size: 6.9MB

## **Sam Houston, We Have a Problem**

By [RICHARD PARKER](#)

Everything about Austin, a town of just 3,500 people on the banks of the crystalline Colorado River, was new. The very idea of being a part of the United States was still settling in: after all, in 1861 the American flag had been flying over the Lone Star state for just 15 years. Now it looked set to leave yet again.



Library of Congress Samuel Houston

Texas may seem today like an unlikely star in the new Confederate flag, 1,000 miles from the drama unfolding in Charleston Harbor and home to one of the smallest slave populations of the states that would secede; only Arkansas and Florida had fewer. Unionists like Sam Houston even swept the 1859 elections. But since independence from Mexico in 1836, cotton and slavery grew disproportionately powerful. In the years since annexation in 1845, confidence in the Union fell. By early 1861, Texan legislators and powerbrokers were debating whether to become the seventh and last of the Deep South states to leave the Union.

Lined up against them were Houston and a small but influential resistance. Throughout the fall and winter of 1860-1861, Houston resisted tremendous pressure to call a special session of the legislature to secede. One petition, dated Nov. 24, 1860, landed on his desk decorated with the Texas flag: "Convene the legislature forthwith, to the end, that such measures may be adopted as the right of self-preservation now demands." As governor, Houston alone had the power. He stubbornly refused.

A wily politician, the hero of [San Jacinto](#) coupled defiance with deception, alternately floating schemes to declare an independent republic again or convene a Southern convention, but to maintain the Union. Though he disliked abolitionists, he insisted that secession would lead to disaster — particularly at the hands of foreign powers like Great Britain, just as he argued in the Senate. "The Union is worth more than Mr. Lincoln," Houston declared in September 1860. "I was denounced then. I am denounced now. Be it so!"

However, in January 1861 secessionists took matters in hand, marching into Houston's office on the Capitol's first floor demanding a special session. Longtime friend Ashbel Smith, later a proponent of education for African-Americans, was among them. Rebuffed, the secessionists headed to the attorney general's office to petition for an unusual, and illegal, special election to call a convention. Houston's time was running out. He called a special session, which convened on Jan. 21, 1861, with the express purpose of outlawing the convention. But the old statesman was double-crossed: the legislature endorsed the convention, elected delegates and turned over its own chambers



for the proceedings. In his office, Houston, largely powerless to stop secession now, fumed at “the mob upstairs.”

Slavery, like elsewhere, was the driving force behind the secessionist impulse. But unlike the rest of the Deep South, Texas’ relationship with the “peculiar institution” was unclear for the first 300 years of its history. The first African-born slave known to have set foot in the Western Hemisphere, [Estevanico](#), landed in Texas in November 1528, shipwrecked with the Spanish explorer Cabeza de Vaca. After trekking to Mexico City, de Vaca sold him. Slavery was legal in Spanish Mexico, yet largely confined to a fertile crescent around Veracruz. Most of the rest of Mexico, including Texas, was simply too arid and rough to support plantation agriculture. The Spanish census of 1777 revealed just 20 Africans in Texans, among a population of 3,000. From 1810 to 1820, Americans drifted in from Louisiana and Arkansas, and some brought slaves. In 1820, Moses Austin of Missouri received permission to establish the first legal colony of Americans in the rich river bottom between the Brazos and Colorado rivers, laying the groundwork for a slave-based plantation economy.

However, Mexico’s sudden independence from Spain in 1821 brought a new government both decidedly hostile to slavery and keen to control its most northern province, which was filling up with Americans. Mexico restricted slavery and eventually abolished it, though at the pleading of Stephen F. Austin, Moses’ son and successor, Texans gained narrow exceptions. Austin himself vacillated, alternately encouraging plantation owners to come, pleading with Mexico for leniency and questioning whether slavery was worth it, though he ultimately came down in favor of slavery, declaring, “Texas must be a slave country.” Mexico in turn banned immigration from the United States. Texans retaliated by declaring independence. Slavery became legal and Austin himself purchased a male slave that year for \$1,200, for no apparent purpose. By the end of the 1830s the Texan slave population had blossomed to 5,000.

Though they came later to Texas than the rest of the Deep South, by the 1840s plantation culture and cotton agriculture were taking over the state’s economy. Planters from the Deep South moved into southeast Texas, around what is now Brazoria County. Rich land and plentiful water provided bountiful cotton crops and the routes to ship it. “We want more slaves,” wrote Charles DeMorse of the Clarksville Northern Standard. “We need them.” Slavery then spread north and west to the blackland prairie. By 1860, there were 182,000 slaves in Texas, an astounding 40-fold increase since independence.

Large slaveholders were a decided minority, but a wealthy and powerful one. Out of a population of 600,000 people in 1860, just 20,000 white males owned slaves; of these half owned fewer than three. Only three men owned more than 200. But this handful owned much of the wealth; still concentrated in the southeast, they were responsible for nine out of 10 cotton bales bound for export. Texas may have been the West to the rest of the country, and much of its land might have been scrub grass, but the region that mattered — the east and the coast — were politically, culturally and economically a part of the Deep South.

Texas became embroiled in the national politics of slavery from the beginning of its statehood process. John C. Calhoun once planned to divide Texas into six states to magnify the power of slave states in the Senate; his plan failed. The Democratic Party, which controlled most of the state’s political scene, pushed Texas further into the Deep South camp, and skepticism against the Republicans and Washington grew intense. The [Knights of the Golden Circle](#), a secret society

established by Kentucky plantation owners to promote slavery in the West, spread quickly through the state, establishing “castles,” or chapters, that encouraged talk of secession as the 1850s drew to a close and fear of a Republican win in 1860 rose.

Even Texans with little or no connection to slavery soured on the Union. Indian raids along the frontier in 1859 and 1860 drew a feckless response from the Army. No strangers to revolution, Texans began to see secession as the route to expansion, particularly southward into Mexico and Central America. The Union would never allow such a thing — but, many believed, the Confederacy would.

In the summer of 1860, the balance of public opinion was finally tipped by hysteria when a series of mysterious fires broke out in Denton and Dallas. Charles R. Pryor, a Dallas newspaper editor, claimed that a slave rebellion was responsible and would soon eclipse the violence of Nat Turner’s 1831 revolt in Virginia. Rumors of rape, murder and poisoning consumed what was left of pro-Union sentiment. Vigilantes hung as many as 100 people, though the fires were likely accidental, the result of storing the first phosphorous matches indoors in the withering Texas heat.

With Lincoln in office and the rest of the Deep South in rebellion, it was only a matter of time before the powers-that-be in Texas pushed the state out of the Union. It finally came on Feb. 1, 1861; as Houston sat in his office, upstairs the Secession Convention, led by Supreme Court Justice O.M. Roberts, demonstrated the full power of cotton and slavery interests. Each delegate had moved to Texas from a slaveholding state. Most were older and wealthier. Many were lawyers, and 70 percent were slave owners. A large number were members of the Knights of the Golden Circle. Only eight unionists took part of the convention, led by James W. Throckmorton. But their voices were drowned out.



Texas State Library & Archives Commission This document from February 1, 1861, dissolved the union between the state of Texas and the United States of America.

At 11:00 a.m., the convention voted on the following ordinance, confined to a single sheet of paper: “To dissolve the union between the State of Texas and the other States, united under the compact styled ‘The Constitution of the United States of America.’” Houston himself was in grudging attendance as the vote to secede was taken, 166 to eight.

The next day the convention displayed the deep racism at work in secession, calling “the African race... an inferior and dependent race” for whom slavery is actually beneficial. Shrewdly, though, the convention also called for a popular referendum, which was held Feb. 23. Though secession was deeply unpopular with the Germans of central Texas, and eight northeast counties voted it down — amid



threats to secede from Texas itself — the gambit succeeded when a full three-quarters of Texans overwhelmingly endorsed the convention vote. On March 1, the Confederacy accepted Texas as its seventh state. The Lone Star would now fly on the Confederate flag.

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*Sources: Texas State Library and Archives Commission, "Under the Rebel Flag"; Kenneth Howell, "The Seventh Star of the Confederacy: Texas During the Civil War"; Texas State Library and Archives Commission, "1861: The Fighting Begins"; University of Virginia, 1860 Census; Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Nov. 24, 1860; Ralph A. Wooster, "Notes on Texas Largest Slaveholders, 1860," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 65; Sam Houston, "Address on Secession," Sept. 22, 1860; James L. Haley, "Sam Houston"; Randolph B. Campbell, "An Empire for Slavery"; Guy Carleton Lee, "The History of North America: The Civil War from a Southern Standpoint"; Ralph A. Wooster, "Civil War Texas"; Ralph A. Wooster, "Lone Star Blue and Gray: Essays on Texas in the Civil War"; Walter L. Buenger, "Secession Convention"; Handbook of Texas Online.*

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## Cape May County Civil War Round Table

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