

# Cape May County Civil War Round Table

Newsletter

June 2006

Deadline for the newsletter is the first of each month, as I put everything together the first week that month. Deadline for the meeting agenda if you want a new business item added is the Monday prior to the meeting as that is when the minutes and meeting agenda are printed out.

For those of you who missed the May meeting, a copy of Bobbie Babbitt's research on Sgt. Tindall is included with this issue of the newsletter. The Civil War Round Table will be placing a commemorative marker on his grave at the time to be announced.

New Members: please welcome them to the group!

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Meetings will be at the Cape May Court House Senior Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, at 7pm. The following is a listing of the schedule of presentations planned for future meetings.

**15 June** – A program telling us about the 69<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Irish Brigade. Refreshments by Pat Munson-Siter.

**20 July** – Bill Cole & the CSA Engineers will be speaking on *Mapping as a Function of Engineers*. Refreshments will be by Sue Gibson and Cindy Giacomoni.

**17 Aug** – Andy Waski will be portraying General Meade. I've seen his presentation, and it is excellent! Refreshments by Andy Lolli and the Burkes.

**21 Sept** – Hugh Boyle of the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table will be making a presentation on General Sickles, *The Incredible Dan Sickles*.

**19 Oct** – Patrick Falci will be presenting *Thunder and Lightning: The Stormy Relationship Between Stonewall Jackson and A.P. Hill*.

**23 Nov** – "Show and Tell" with members of the Civil War Round Table presenting artifacts from their own collections.

**14 Dec** – Open. Please note this is **not** the third Thursday of the month, which would be too close to Christmas!

CIVIL WAR  
TRAILS



**Upcoming  
Civil War Events**

Most of this information is from the website <http://civilwartraveler.com>; June through September are busy months for Civil War related events; it would take up the entire newsletter and more to try and list them all. I also have a notebook full of other

events – ask to look through it if you're interested in seeing what other events are coming up.

**15 – 18 June** – Tour of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness and Spotsylvania, including three nights lodging, etc. via Civil War Weekend Tours. \$595 per person. See above.

**17 June** – *Civil War Camp Day* = demonstrations of daily life in the Washington fortifications of Fort Ward in Alexandria, VA. 10 am to 5 pm, torchlight tours 7 to 9 pm. Suggested donation of \$2. [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org) or 703-838-4848

**17 June** – *Courage! Civil War Washington*: Walking tour of sites associated with the wartime capital begins at 11am at Cosi Coffee, 10<sup>th</sup> and E St. NW in Washington, DC. Cost is \$10. [www.historicstrolls.com](http://www.historicstrolls.com) or 301-588-9255

**17 June** – *Civil War Movies*; guided tour of central Virginia sites depicted in movies, such as the Tredegar Iron Works and “The Crater” at the Petersburg Battlefield. Leaves the Richmond Visitors Center near 3<sup>rd</sup> and Marshall Streets at 9am, returns at 5 pm. Registration required, 804-744-1718 or [www.virginiafilmtours.com](http://www.virginiafilmtours.com). \$82 cost

**17 – 18 June** – *Union Caregivers*; National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick, MD. 11 am to 5pm, free with admission.

**18 Jun** – In PA, re-enactors will recreate the march of the 1<sup>st</sup> PA reserves from the PA monument to Little Round Top at the Gettysburg National Park. Demonstrations at the monument 11 am and 2pm, march begins at 4pm. Charge down Little Round Top at 5pm. Free. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett) or [www.firstreserves.messofthedamned.org](http://www.firstreserves.messofthedamned.org)

**23 Jun** – *Clara Barton, Walt Whitman and the Bloody Legions: Chatham as a Field Hospital*; Fredericksburg, VA; part of the national parks' History at Sunset series. Meets at Chatham at 7-m. Free. 540-373-6122 or [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp)

**24 Jun** – *Thos Arms Were Not Lost in Vain*, Pry House Field Hospital Museum on the Antietam battlefield near Sharpsburg, MD. [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org)

**24 – 25 June** – *Civil War Weekend at Pamplin Historical Park* in VA. Living history, music, guided tours each day. Free with admission to the park. [www.pamplinpark.org](http://www.pamplinpark.org) or 877-PAMPLIN

**24 – 25 June** – *The Battlefield Embalmer* at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick, MD. 11 am to 3 pm, free with admission. [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org) or 301-695-1864

**1 July** – *Civil War Medicine: Living History Demonstration*; at the Jacob Weikert Farm on the Gettysburg, PA battlefield, 10am to 5pm. [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org)

**1 July** – *Antietam Salute to Independence Celebration*, music and fireworks begin at 7:30 pm near the Antietam, MD national battlefield visitors' center. Expect large crowds. Roads and visitor center close at 3pm. Free. [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti)

**1 – 3 July** – *Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg*; [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett). Also re-enactments, battles each day, and lots more. [www.gettysburgreenactment.com](http://www.gettysburgreenactment.com). Ticket sales at 717-338-1525.

**8 July** – *Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee: Mosby Owned the Night*, lantern-light Civil War stories from the Mosby Heritage area, 8 pm at the Rector House at Atoka, VA, 4 miles west of Middleburg; free. [www.mosbyheritagearea.org](http://www.mosbyheritagearea.org) or 540-687-6681.

**8 – 9 July** – *A Soldier's Life on Campaign: The 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Monocacy*; living history with demonstrations all weekend, free. Monocacy battlefield in MD. [www.nps.gov/hafe](http://www.nps.gov/hafe)

**14 July** – *The Red Badge's Bloody Morning: Chancellorsville, May 3, and The Red Badge of Courage*; part of the national park service's History at Sunset series. Chancellorsville, VA visitor center at 7pm; free. [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp)

**15 – 16 July**: *Civil War Garrison Day*; living history at Ft. McHenry in Baltimore, MD; encampment and military demonstrations; special tattoo ceremony at 6:30 pm. Free with admission. [www.nps.gov/fomc](http://www.nps.gov/fomc)

**15 – 16 July**: *Giving Aid and Comfort: Medical and Relief Work during the Civil War*; Harpers Ferry National Historic Park, WV. Free with admission. [www.nps.gov/hafe](http://www.nps.gov/hafe)

**July 19 – 22<sup>nd</sup>** – *Civil War Spy: Elizabeth Van Lew*. Starting at 8:30 pm every evening during the above dates, the East Lynn Theater Company located at the old First Presbyterian Church at 500 Hughes St. in Cape May will be presenting this vignette. “Meet the woman who remained in her hometown of Richmond, VA when the Civil War broke out, so she could provide information for the North. Written and performed by Annette M. Baldwin, who will also divulge secrets of the spy trade.” Tickets run from \$7 to \$22. For reservations and/or information call 609-884-5898 or go to [www.eastlnntheater.org](http://www.eastlnntheater.org)

**21-22 July**: *Re-enactment of 1<sup>st</sup> Manassas* near Cedar Creek. If attending make hotel reservations etc. in the near future as many have already sold out.

**19 Aug** – *Cape May County Historic Genealogical Society Clambake* at the 4H Fairgrounds from 3:30 to 6:30 pm. Anyone interested in participating in a Civil War Round Table exhibit should contact Hank Heacock.

### **Information of Interest:**

#### **The Bloodiest Battles of the Civil War**

Total Casualties

##### **Gettysburg**

Federal – 23,053

Confederate – 28,063

##### **Seven Days Battle**

Federal – 15,849

Confederate – 20,614

##### **Chickamauga**

Federal – 16,170

Confederate – 18,454

##### **Chancellorsville/Second Fredericksburg**

Federal – 16,845

Confederate – 12,764

##### **Antietam**

Federal – 12,410

Confederate – 10,316

##### **Second Manassas/Chantilly**

Federal – 16,054

Confederate – 9,286

##### **Shiloh**

Federal – 13,047

Confederate – 10,694

##### **Fredericksburg**

Federal – 12,653

Confederate – 5,309

#### **The Civil War Journal of Dr. Albert Dunlap, con't**

**Tuesday, 6 May 1862.** We are still laying here waiting for insulators to continue the telegraph. News has just come in that a train of ours was attacked last night about 8 miles back from here, and they have sent up for reinforcements. My beautiful greys have been taken from me for company use and another team given me. Wednesday morning we started again to finish the telegraph to Monterey. During the day the brigade passed us again. It extended for 5 miles along the road. Just as we made camp for the night we received orders to proceed with all dispatch to Monterey and the wagons were to be unloaded and carry such of the guard as could not walk. Our guard consisted of two companies of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Ohio. We started at 7:30 pm and caught up with the

brigade about 11:30 pm, having marched and drove 14 miles in 4 hours on a dark, wet night. It was raining most of the time. We camped in the road and I rolled myself up in my wagon cover and shawl and slept till morning. **Thursday [8 May]** we moved on about a mile and made a wagon camp within 5 miles of Monterey. During the day we could hear the distant firing, showing that a battle was raging, but we could learn no particulars as to which side was victorious. At night the signals were arranged for retreat, advance, or standing to arms, and I turned in as contented as anyone.

About 8 o'clock Friday morning [9 May] I was aroused by the signal to retreat. Jumped up and found it was a bitter cold morning with a heavy frost, and I crept to a fire and thawed myself out before attempting to hitch up. As usual there was great confusion; orders given and countermanded. The wagons of General Milrey's brigade, which we had come up to reinforce, got mixed up with ours and we did not get ready to retreat in form until near night. I delayed hitching up until daybreak, and then took on a heavy load of knapsacks and started. Stood in the road all day and, having built a big fire, I made a cup of coffee and ate some raw pork and crackers. By ten o'clock it was so warm a person could not bear a coat on, and I believe it is always cold nights and warm days here during the summer. About 4 pm we made a start and traveled until late at night, made our camp and just as we got unhitched we were ordered to prepare to retreat again, which we did at double quick. Drove on about a mile and bivouacked for the night. I hunted in vain for feed for my horses, and they had to go without their supper. Started Saturday morning early and drove to within 2 miles of Franklin. Here we made camp and pitched tents for the first time in 4 days. As soon as I had fed my horses a little hay, I started for the river and took a good wash all over, and then put on a clean suit of cloths. Felt like a new man. Saddled one of my horses and started to hunt corn, but after riding a few miles I gave up the search and returned to camp. From Wednesday night our horses were without feed until today, and all we have for them now is a little old hay.

**Sunday, 11 May 1862.** Was aroused a little before daybreak by the long roll, the alarm sound of a camp. But as no enemy appeared we went to work and ate breakfast, after which I hitched two horses in a light wagon and started to hunt corn. Had just reached Franklin when I was turned back by a General Order to return as the army was retreating again in order to obtain a better position. Hurried back and found everything getting ready, and as I had no load I went up to a haystack and took on a load of hay for my horses and then commenced retreating. Our army took up a position on the hills around Franklin but the rear guard was attacked before it could leave the old camp. The forces we are fighting are under Generals Johnson and Jackson. It is supposed that Lee is with them, with large reinforcements from Yorktown. The firing continued all Sunday evening and night and also during a portion of Monday. The stores of Franklin were all broken open and robbed of everything worth taking. Sunday night I encamped in the rear of the army and slept soundly during the cannonade of the night.

# Shall the battlefields long endure?

By Kimberly Hefling  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Gettysburg was the site of one of the largest battles fought on American soil, but today it is caught in a different type of fight: whether slot machines should come to town.

A proposal that would bring gambling a little more than a mile away from the Pennsylvania battlefield propelled it to the top of a preservation group's list of the 10 most endangered Civil War battlefields. The list was released yesterday.

Proposed development was one threat cited by the Civil War Preservation Trust in the naming of the 10 sites.

**A list of the 10 most imperiled Civil War sites is issued, and irks some.**

"Hallowed ground, where more than 600,000 Americans gave their lives, is being paved over in favor of shopping malls, housing tracts, and even gambling casinos," the trust's president, James Lighthizer, said at a news conference.

Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina were blamed for some of the disrepair at

Fort Morgan, Ala., and two forts outside New Orleans. Sprawl and a lack of money have also contributed to many of the problems at the sites, Lighthizer said.

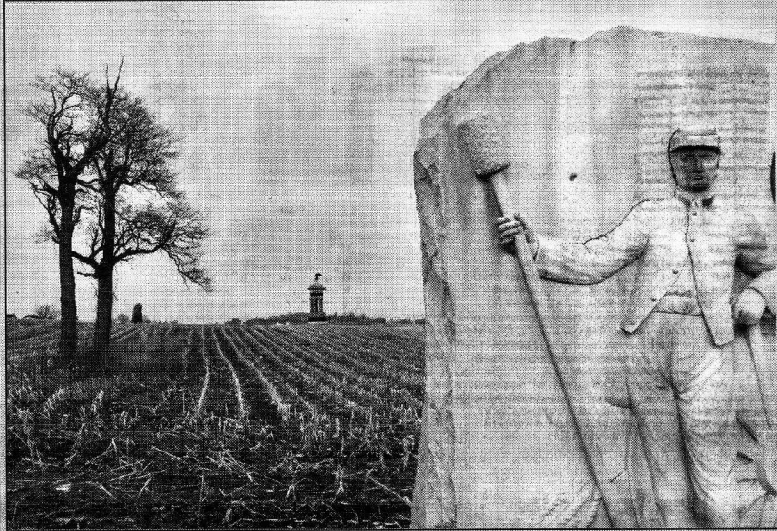
The three-day fight at Gettysburg was a tide-turning battle in 1863 that sent Confederate soldiers into retreat and left 50,000 casualties. It is also where President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address warning about the destruction of the nation.

Last year, a group of investors from an entity called Chance Enterprises announced plans to boost economic development by seeking a slot-machine license from Pennsylvania gambling regulators to anchor the proposed Crossroads Gaming Resort & Spa. State regulators are expected to rule sometime this year.

The investors accused the preservation group yesterday of lying about their proposed plans so it could raise money.

David LeVan, chief executive officer of the investment group, said in a statement: "It is amazing how the Gettysburg Battlefield has gone from not even being on the trust's list of 25 most endangered battlefields to the top of the list overnight, even though our resort has been a subject of debate and discussion for nearly a year."

The trust denied LeVan's allegations.



ERIC MENCHER / Inquirer Staff Photographer

At Gettysburg, a memorial to the 15th New York Battery. A group of investors seeks a slot-machine license and wants to build a resort near the battlefield.

## The 10 Embattled Battle Sites

*The Civil War Preservation Trust's list of the 10 most endangered Civil War battlefields, alphabetically:*

### Chattahoochee River Line (Ga.):

The line stretches along the Chattahoochee's northern banks and is where Joseph E. Johnston's Confederates took up defensive positions after the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.

**Circle Forts (Washington):** These are a ring of 68 fortifications scattered around the city that were built to protect the Union capital.

**Fort Morgan (Ala.):** This is where Union Adm. David Farragut proclaimed, "Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!" The fort where supplies were smuggled into the Confederacy withstood an 18-day bombardment before it surrendered.

**Gettysburg (Pa.):** Site of one of the largest, costliest battles ever in the Americas, with 50,000 casualties.

**Glendale (Va.):** Also known as Frayser's Farm, it was the site of the fifth day of fighting of the 1862

### Seven Days Campaign.

There were about 6,500 troop casualties at the site.

**Glorieta Pass (N.M.):** Here, Union forces turned back the Confederate invasion of the Union territory.

**New Orleans Forts (La.):** Forts Jackson and St. Philip on the banks of the Mississippi River, 70 miles south of New Orleans, held off Union troops for a week in 1862.

**Raymond (Miss.):** The site was a turning point in Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's Vicksburg campaign.

**Shenandoah Valley (Va.):** Confederate Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson won fame here for his series of victories in spring 1862.

**Wilderness (Va.):** The first clash between Gens. Grant and Robert E. Lee took place at this site, leaving more than 25,000 dead and wounded.

### ONLINE EXTRA

Read more about the trust's report on endangered battlegrounds via <http://go.philly.com/civil>

# The Wages of War

Old soldiers know the human price of battle.  
What history teaches us about how vets truly think.

BY JONATHAN DARMAN

**I**TALY, LATE MAY 1944. THE ALLIED ARMY ADVANCED ON Rome and suffered a brutal counterattack. Hunkered down near the beaches of Anzio, a 23-year-old Army private from Oak Ridge, Tenn., sent a despondent letter home. "Take a combination of fear, anger, hunger, thirst, exhaustion, loneliness, homesickness," Paul Curtis wrote to a younger brother who wanted to know about war, "and you might approach the feelings a fellow has." Nothing can ease his depression, not even the prospect that the war might end. He is certain that war will "rise again." After all, he writes, "peace will be settled by men who have never known combat and ... hold no dread of another war for they don't know."

Old soldiers have always led America. They've shown us how to love our country, revere our military and honor our war dead. More softly, they've warned of the dangers of wishing for war. "It is well that war is so terrible," said Robert E. Lee, or else "we should grow too fond of it," and soldiers have echoed him from Antietam to Iraq. Now, as we celebrate another Veterans Day, we welcome home a new generation of soldiers. If history is a guide, only a few of these new veterans will join antiwar movements; most will proudly support their country in any future entanglements it may face. But many of those returning from Afghanistan and Iraq will doubtless join a tradition of brave veterans who quietly hate war. They can teach us why war is never romantic, but may sometimes be worth fighting all the same.

Fighting soldiers fall quickly out of love with war. Living in cramped quarters, stripped of their individuality, they find their youthful dreams of glorious war alien and strange. "I once had a dim notion about the 'romance of a soldier's life,'" wrote a Union soldier after the first Battle of Manassas. "I have bravely got over it since." In World War II, "anybody who was involved with killing and being killed was disillusioned from the start," says the war historian Paul Fussell. "You can't go through that kind of combat without becoming disillusioned."

Some veterans voice their feelings clearly. Gen. William T. Sherman's admonition that "war is hell" is often remembered for its irony (Sherman was the cruelest prosecutor of the Civil War in the South). Forgotten is Sherman's audience, a graduating class of military cadets. Seeing hunger for war rising among

his listeners, Sherman offered simple advice: "Suppress it." Adults can be equally susceptible to romantic notions of wars. "The intellectual community is apt to say we have to 'do something,'" Gen. Colin Powell wrote in 1995. "But in the end, it is the armed forces that bring back the body bags and have to explain why to parents." Some even give up all illusions of noble service. "Never mind about the glory of a uniform," a Korean War veteran wrote to a friend considering enlistment. "There are too many dead & maimed glorious & honour bound boys."

Other old soldiers are always hungry for a fight. Theodore Roosevelt was in love with war when he stormed San Juan Heights and never lost his romantic sense of combat. Even at the death of his son Quentin in World War I, Roosevelt was triumphant: the boy had "had his crowded hour." ("My other boys are just as daring," Roosevelt bragged when responding to a letter of condolence. "If the war lasts, they will all be killed unless they are so crippled as to be sent home.") As a young lieutenant colonel in World War I, George S. Patton came under heavy fire in the St-Mihiel offensive. Remembering his grandfather, a fallen Confederate general, he concluded it was his noble destiny to be "another Patton" who died on the field of war. (He lived and went on to command campaigns on two continents in World War II.)

Other military families are less eager for combat; still, if it's war, their sons will fight. Some think it dangerous to dwell on war's horrors. Man's "destiny is battle," said the thrice-wounded Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. "If it is our business to fight, the book for the army is a war-song, not a hospital-sketch."

Veterans who speak openly of war's evil, though, say honesty can help us in future fights. History may be on their



**BATTLE SCARS:** Lee warned against fondness for war

**“I once had a dim notion about the ‘romance of a soldier’s life,’” wrote a Union soldier after the first Battle of Manassas. “I have bravely got over it since.”**

side. Combat had no romance after World War I; a generation had been lost for nothing but the dreams of dead kings. But when darkness fell again in Europe, the weary West stood up to fight in World War II. "We are all conscientious objectors," said the English writer Rupert Croft-Cooke, "and all in the war."

It is the privilege of the old soldier, then, to speak realistically of war, and idealistically of peace. Another privilege: speaking for those who did not live to speak for themselves. At the end of his letter home, Paul Curtis, the downtrodden Army private, ventured that "all new men" shared his hatred for combat. He wondered if old men felt differently and if someday he would feel differently, too. We cannot know. Three days after writing his letter, Curtis was struck down in combat, just south of Rome. ■

PHOTOS BY REYNOLDS/EPA/NEWS.COM (SKIING) AND EVERETT (GLORY)



A black regiment fights to take Fort Wagner in the 1989 film *Glory*.

# Saving Our Civil War Sites

**A**merica has lost more than 20% of its Civil War battle sites due to development and sprawl. On Tuesday, the Civil War Preservation Trust will unveil a report on the most endangered battlefields. We got a sneak peak. Topping the list are two famous sites: Morris Island, in South Carolina, best known as the place where the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, comprised of African-Americans, made its valiant charge against Fort Wagner, immortalized in the 1989 film *Glory*. A planned housing development could destroy what remains of Fort Wagner and affect Fort Sumter too. Also at risk is the battlefield at Chancellorsville, Va., where Robert E. Lee won a victory in 1863 that is still studied today. Attempts have been made to build a 2000-house artificial city and a highway bypass on the site. Visit [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org) for details.

**Housing plans pose dangers.**



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**Did You Know?**  
Submitted by **Hank Heacock**

Jefferson Davis, a captive on his way to a Federal prison, rode with Vice-President Stephens in a carriage through Augusta, GA, in the spring of 1865. An eight-year-old boy peered at them through the blinds of the Presbyterian minister's house, absorbing a scene he would never forget. His name: Woodrow Wilson.

