

The Year of Lincoln

200th Anniversary of Lincoln's Birth



Cape May County Civil War Round Table

May 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 3rd Thursday of each month. DUES FOR 2009 ARE DUE! Please send dues to Jim Marshall.

Meetings for 2009:

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:** Mary Anne Donlin, in memory of Clark Donlin

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:** John Burke

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

1st Vice President: Suzanne Gibson

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

2nd 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 – April 16 2009

President Lolli opened the meeting. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for our troops serving our country.

Treasurer did not make the meeting; no treasurer's report. VP Sue Gibson has not yet lined up any new speakers for those meetings where we have no speakers yet.

"Return to Bull Run / Second Manassas" was the book being offered for fund raiser tonight.

No other business for this meeting, meeting adjourned so presentation could begin.

Minutes for the Civil War Round Table Business Meeting – 21 May 2009

VP Gibson brought the meeting to order. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for all those serving our country.

Please pay dues if you haven't paid. No newsletters will be mailed out to anyone who has not paid their dues.

Treasurer was present and gave his report. \$50 has been voted to be donated to the Kernstown Battlefield preservation fund. Hardcopy of report is in files. Motion made to accept the report and file for audit; seconded and approved.

VP Gibson went over the presenters for the next few meetings. She is still arranging presenters for some future meetings. She had someone lined up for the August meeting but they were forced to cancel.

Our website was recently updated. Jim hopes to be able to keep it updated in a more timely manner in the future. AMART has added us to their website (AMARTcivilwar.org)

On 20 June, Cold Spring Village will present a "Timeline Reenactment," in which several historic time periods will be represented by reenactors.

Hank Heacock has several Civil War books on sale; see him at meetings if you're interested in purchasing any of them.

Kathy Perry has donated several books in support of our fund raising efforts.

John Burke will now be refreshment person in August, while \$\$ sent by Mary Ann Donlin for refreshments in memory of Clark will be June (Pat M-S will be actually bringing the refreshments in)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned so the presentation could be given.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Munson-Siter
Secretary



Civil War Timeline

July

1861

- 11 Battle at Rich Mountain (now WV)
- 21 Battle of First Manassas (Bull Run)

1862

- 1 Battle of Malvern Hill (VA)

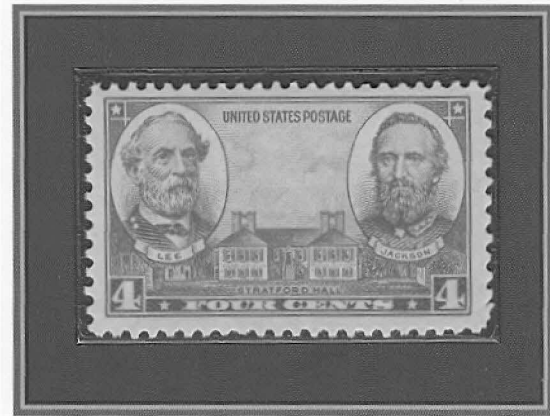
1863

- 1 - 3 Battle of Gettysburg
- 4 Vicksburg surrenders to Grant
- 13 - 16 New Your City Draft Riots

1864

- 9 Battle of Monocacy (MD)
- 20 Battle at Peachtree Creek (GA)
- 22 Battle of Atlanta
- 24 Battle of Kernstown (VA)

- 30 Battle of "The Crater" at Petersburg
- 30 Confederate cavalry burn Chambersburg (PA)



This stamp honoring Confederate Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. Jackson was issued March 23, 1937 in Washington, D.C. Lee's Virginia birthplace is shown in the background.

July 2009

Civil War Related Events

- 1 **VA** Walking tour, "Malvern Hill," part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145.
- 1 **MD** Lecture, "When the Bullet Hits the Bone," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 7:30 pm. Free. www.civilwarmed.org or 301-695-1864.
- 1-3 **PA** Special anniversary tours and programs at the Gettysburg National Military Park. Details: www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 2 **PA** Hunterstown Heritage Day, includes walking tour of the 1863 Battle of Hunterstown, living history, speakers, authors and artists. www.hunterstown1863.com.
- 3 **VA** Walking tour, "This Time the Yankees Win," part of the Fredericksburg NPS History at Sunset Series. Begins at the main Fredericksburg battlefield visitor center. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.
- 3 **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 or 804-649-1861 extension 37.

3-5	PA	Reenactment, annual event at Gettysburg with three days of battles, living history camps and demonstrations, talks and more. Schedules, tickets, etc: www.gettysburgreenactment.com .			
3-5	PA	"A Scared Trust: Gettysburg Perspectives," authors, historians and NPS rangers present perspectives on the Battle of Gettysburg at the national park visitor center. www.gettysburgfoundation.org or 717-338-1243.	11	VA	Walking tour, "Hard Liquor and Women," in Civil War Petersburg, meets at the Petersburg city visitor center, 425 Cockade Alley downtown. 11 am, 1:30 and 3:30 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/pete or 804-732-3531 extension 205.
4	MD	Antietam Salute to Independence. Annual event on the Antietam National Battlefield includes concert and fireworks. Visitor center closes 3 pm. Details: www.nps.gov/anti or 301-432-5124.	11	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. www.brandystationfoundation.com or 540-547-4106.
4	PA	"Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Church, 30 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg. Civil War music and stories by candlelight at this historic church. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.	11	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. www.mosbyheritagearea.org or 540-687-6681.
4-5	PA	Living history camps and programs at Spangler Spring and Pitzer Woods, Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.	11-12	PA	Living history, infantry camp and demonstrations at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org or 717-260-1861.
8	VA	Walking tour, "Battle of Totopotomoy Creek at Rural Plains," part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145.	11-12	PA	Living history camps and programs at the Pennsylvania Memorial and Pitzer Woods, Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
8	MD	Lecture, "Stuart's Horse Artillery during the Maryland Campaign of 1862," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 7:30 pm. Free. www.civilwarmed.org or 301-695-1864.	11-12	VA	Living history at the Chancellorsville battlefield west of Fredericksburg. NPS site hosts camps, living history and tours. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.
9	VA	"Life at Headquarters," special program with talks, kids activities and tours at the Dabbs House Museum, 3808 Nine Mile Road, just off I-64 east of downtown Richmond. 1-4 pm. Free. 804-652-3411.	11-12	VA	Tour, "Sheridan in the Shenandoah," based in Winchester. \$295 plus lodging. www.civilwartours.org or 860-485-3244.
10	VA	Walking tour, "Race to the Crossroads: Laurel Hill," part of the Fredericksburg NPS History at Sunset Series. Begins at stop No. 1, Spotsylvania battlefield. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.	11-12	VA	Living history at Malvern Hill, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. Demonstrations, talks and tours 10 am-5 pm Saturday and 10 am-3 pm Sunday. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145
10-12	VA	Reenactment, Battles at Wise. Camps, demonstrations and battles downtown. Latest details: www.battlesatwise.com .	11-12	MD	Reenactment, "Gilmor's Raid," at Jerusalem Mill Village, Kingsville. Camps, demonstrations, music and other living history all weekend. Battles each day. 410-877-3560 or www.jerusalemill.org
11	PA	Walking tour, "Gettysburg and Beyond: Laurel Hill's Ultimate Civil War Tour," at Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia. 2 pm. \$15. www.thelaurelhilccemetery.org or 215-228-8200.	11-12	MD	Living history, "Civil War Days" at Point Lookout State Park (end of Route 5 at Chesapeake Bay). Camps, demonstrations and fort tours. Free with park admission. 301-872-5085.
11	PA	"Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Church, 30 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg. Civil War music and stories by candlelight at this historic church. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.	11-12	MD	Living history, "Confederates on Turner's Gap," demonstrations and camps at the South Mountain gap near Boonsboro. Free. 301-432-8065.
11	VA	"Mosby Heritage and You," talk about the Mosby Heritage Area and area Civil War history at Sky Meadows State Park in Delaplane. 2-4 pm. Parking fee. 540-592-3556.	11-12	MD	Anniversary activities at the Monocacy National Battlefield near Frederick. Living history and ranger-led battlefield hikes. Free. www.nps.gov/mono or 301-662-3515.
11	VA	Living history, "Fighting and Frolicking: The Civil	11-12	MD	Living history, annual encampment at Rose Hill Manor Park, 1611 N Market St, Frederick. Camps,

		demonstrations, military and civilian living history. www.rosehillmuseum.com or 301-600-1650.			military camps and demonstrations commemorating the Battle of First Manassas. 11 am-4 pm. Free. 703-367-7872 for more info, directions.
12	MD	Open House at the Kennedy Farm, 2406 Chestnut Grove Road near Sharpsburg. Commemorates the arrival of "Isaac Smith" (John Brown) and his group prior to the raid at Harpers Ferry. Noon-4 pm. www.johnbrown.org or 304-535-6026.	18-19	VA	Anniversary activities (First Manassas) at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Special ranger tours, living history camps and demonstrations. 10 am-4 pm Saturday, 10 am-2 pm Sunday. Free with park admission. 703-361-1339 or www.nps.gov/mana .
15	VA	Walking tour, "Chimborazo Hospital," led by a Richmond National Battlefield Park ranger. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145.	22	VA	Walking tour, "Richmond's Riverfront – the Industrial Heart of the Confederacy," led by a Richmond National Battlefield Park ranger. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145.
15	MD	Lecture, "Orthopedic Surgery: Then and Now," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 7:30 pm. Free. www.civilwarmed.org or 301-695-1864.	22	MD	Lecture, "Brother against... Insects, the role of insects in the Civil War," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 7:30 pm. Free. www.civilwarmed.org or 301-695-1864.
17	VA	Walking tour, "Clara Barton Comes to Fredericksburg," part of the Fredericksburg NPS History at Sunset Series. Begins at Rappahannock Regional Library downtown. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.	22-26	MD	Seminar and tours, "Stonewall Jackson in the Valley," headquartered in Hagerstown. Details: 717-264-7101 or www.chambersburgcivilwarseminars.org .
18	PA	"Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Church, 30 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg. Civil War music and stories by candlelight at this historic church. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.	24	VA	Walking tour, "Key Moments for Key People," part of the Fredericksburg NPS History at Sunset Series. Begins at stop No. 9, Chancellorsville battlefield. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.
18	VA	Walking tour, self-guided tour of the Civil War trail at Rose Hill (part of the First Kernstown battlefield near Winchester). 1-4 pm. \$5. Directions, more info: www.shenandoahmuseum.org or 888-556-5799.	25	MD	Living history, artillery demonstrations at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/anti or 301-432-5124.
18	VA	Living history, Civil War Camp Day and Skirmish at Fort Ward in Alexandria. Camps, medical, civilian and military demonstrations plus tactical skirmish. 10 am-5 pm. \$5/adult, \$10/family. www.fortward.org or 703-838-4848.	25	PA	"Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Church, 30 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg. Civil War music and stories by candlelight at this historic church. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.
18	VA	Van tour, "Stuart's Ride Around McClellan," follows the famed 1862 Richmond-area ride. Begins at Lee Hall Mansion in Newport News. 8 am-4 pm. \$50, reservations required, space limited. 757-888-3371 or www.leehall.org .	25	VA	Lecture, "Importing, Manufacturing and Transporting the Confederate Nation," at the Union Station in downtown Petersburg. 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/pete 804-732-3531.
18-19	MD	Living history, infantry camps and demonstrations at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/anti or 301-432-5124.	25	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 or 540-547-4106.
18-19	MD	Living history encampment at Union Mills, on Route 97 north of Westminster. 10 am-4 pm. 410-848-2288 or www.unionmills.org .	25	VA	Family Fun Day at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. Kid's games and other family activities. 10 am-4 pm. Free with admission. www.moc.org or 804-649-1861 extension 21.
18-19	MD	Summer Open House at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. Free admission noon-4 pm. www.surratt.org or 301-868-1121.	25-26	VA	Living history at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. Focus on Union occupation following the surrender. Free with park admission. www.nps.gov/apco or 434-352-8987 extension 26.
18-19	PA	Living history camps and programs at the Pennsylvania Memorial and Pitzer Woods, Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.	25-26	MD	Living history, "Field Hospital," at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum on the Antietam National Battlefield near Keedysville. 11 am-5 pm. Details: www.civilwarmed.org or 301-416-2395.
18-19	VA	Living history at Ben Lomond in Manassas. Hospital,	25-26	PA	Living history, infantry camp and demonstrations at

- the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org or 717-260-1861.
- 25-26 **PA** Living history camps and programs at Pitzer Woods and Spangler Spring, Gettysburg National Military Park. Free. www.nps.gov/gett or 717-334-1124 extension 8023.
- 27-31 **PA** Tour, "The Ultimate Gettysburg Tour," includes campaign and retreat sites, based in Gettysburg. \$800 plus lodging. www.civilwartours.org or 860-485-3244.
- 29 **VA** Walking tour, "First Deep Bottom battle" led by a Richmond National Battlefield Park ranger. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/rich or 804-771-2145.
- 29 **MD** Lecture, "Postwar Memorial Activities: Creating the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Sons of Confederate Veterans," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 7:30 pm. Free. www.civilwarmed.org or 301-695-1864.
- 30 **VA** "Life at Headquarters," special program with talks, kids activities and tours at the Dabbs House Museum, 3808 Nine Mile Road, just off I-64 east of downtown Richmond. 1-4 pm. Free. 804-652-3411.
- 30 **VA** Battle of the Crater anniversary walking tour, "Remembering the Dead." Ranger-guided walk begins at 7 pm at the Blandford Cemetery Reception Center at 7 pm. 804-732-3531 extension 200.
- 31 **VA** Walking tour, "War Comes to the Wilderness and the Chewning Family," part of the Fredericksburg NPS History at Sunset Series. Begins at Stop 5, Wilderness battlefield. 7 pm. Free. www.nps.gov/frsp or 540-373-6122.
- 31-
Aug 2 **VA** Living history, camps, drills and demonstrations at the old Montpelier visitor center on Route 20 near Orange. Noon-5 pm Friday, 9 am-5 pm Saturday, and 9 am-2 pm Sunday. Free (fee charged for Montpelier visit). www.montpelier.org.



This stamp honoring the Stone Mountain Memorial, a rock carving of Confederate heroes Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson, was issued September 19, 1970 in Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Unmarked but far from forgotten

After more than a century, black Civil War soldiers are getting headstones.

By Dahleen Glanton
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — For more than a century, the bodies of about 300 black soldiers who died in the Civil War have lain in unmarked graves on the bank of Skull Creek harbor.

These former slaves who fled the plantations to fight for freedom on the side of the Union Army are unknown heroes.

The small plot of land where they are buried is overshadowed by multimillion-dollar condos and a private marina — symbols of the transformation that has occurred in Hilton Head over the last 50 years, changing the island from a predominantly black town to one of gated communities for the wealthy.

But for Howard Wright, 57, the great-great-grandson of a former slave who fought in the war, Talbird Cemetery is part of his family's heritage and, he said, an integral part of American history that should not be forgotten.

So he has set out on a mission to get the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide headstones for the more than 3,000 blacks in South Carolina who served in what was called the U.S. Colored Troops. In recent months, he has received 300 markers from the department, including one for his great-great-grandfather, Caesar Kirk-Jones, who died in 1903 at 74.

"History has been rewritten when it comes to the legacy of the colored troops," said Wright, a historian who founded the Sankofa Restoration Project. "They came in fighting with their weapons blazing. They had more at stake than anyone else and they turned around the destiny of this country."

Wright has spent 25 years researching the histories of the men buried at Talbird Cemetery, as well as more than 1,000 other black Civil War soldiers at some 100 similar cemeteries in Beaufort County, S.C. More than 1,000 black soldiers are buried in a formerly segregated section of the Beaufort National Cemetery.

According to Wright, about 300 black soldiers have yet to be identified at Talbird, Hilton Head's largest black cemetery. For the descendants to have relatives who died fighting in a war that ended slavery, it is considered an honor that they speak of with

pride.

"Every black family in Hilton Head has someone buried here," Wright said. "So this is important to a lot of people."

But Wright's work does not stop there. He said his goal is to have headstones placed on the graves of all 200,000 black Union veterans nationwide. The role of black soldiers in the Civil War always has been controversial, with advocates arguing that they have never received proper recognition.

At the beginning of the war in 1861, free blacks rushed to join the Union Army but were turned away because of a 1792 federal law barring free blacks from bearing arms for the Army. Though President Abraham Lincoln early on considered recruiting black troops, he feared that it would cause more states to secede from the Union.

But as the war raged on and fewer whites signed up, Congress passed a law in 1862 freeing slaves whose owners were fighting on the side of the Confederacy. Next shortly thereafter, Lincoln presented a draft of the Emancipation Proclamation, which gave freedom to all slaves in the Confederate states and made them eligible to fight in the U.S. military.

The Army's first formal black regiment, the First South Carolina Voluntary Infantry, was formed in Beaufort County, a primary battleground in the Civil War.

"We are talking about people who made the ultimate sacrifice, people who went without pay for months and months because of their dedication to this cause, people who wanted to fight," said Wright.

By the end of the war in 1865, about 180,000 black men were in the Army. An additional 20,000 served in the Navy. Black women signed up as nurses, spies and scouts, the most famous being Harriet Tubman, who helped establish the Underground Railroad and was a scout for the 2d South Carolina Volunteers.

Over the course of the war, nearly 40,000 black soldiers died. For Wright, that is a sacrifice worth noting.

Almost a century and a half later, he said, "nobody ever said thank you to them. This is the first time all the families in South Carolina will be able to say thank you to their ancestors who fought in this war."

