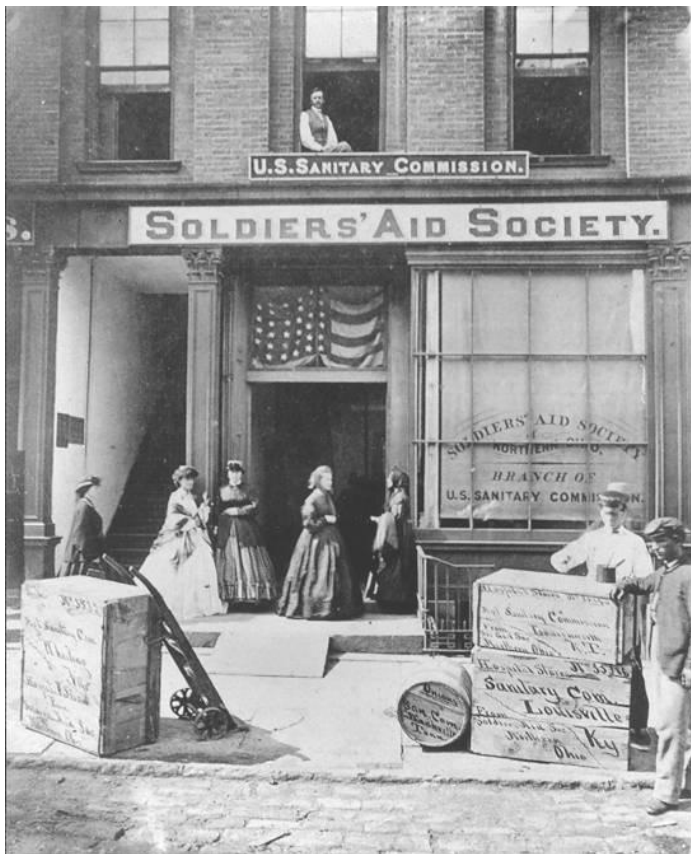


## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Civil War



### Cape May County Civil War Round Table Newsletter April 2013

#### 2013 Meeting Schedule

**16 May:** Patrick Falci will be talking about the life and times of AP Hill **Refreshments:** Lou Bishop

**20 June: Refreshments:** Marty Runner

**18 July:**

**15 August:** Ed Bonekemper will be giving us a presentation on *The Myth of the Lost Cause: A Fantasy View of the Civil War.*

**Refreshments:** Mike & Barbara Golla

**19 September:**

**17 October: Refreshments:** John Burke

**21 November:**

**?? December:**

#### CMCCWRT Officers for 2013/2014

President: John Burke  
40 Secluded Lane, Rio Grande, NJ 08210  
609-408-8238 = NEW PHONE NUMBER  
jwburke@comcast.net

Vice President: Lou Bishop Jr.

21 Schoolhouse Ln, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

609-463-9277 or 741-5438

[southwilriseagain@aol.com](mailto:southwilriseagain@aol.com)

Secretary: Pat Munson-Siter

42 Franklin Ave., Villas, NJ 08251-2407

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[ladysymitar@hotmail.com](mailto:ladysymitar@hotmail.com)

Treasurer: Jim Marshall

202 Bartram Ln., Ocean City, NJ 08226

609-398-6924

[jim@jimocnj.com](mailto:jim@jimocnj.com) or [James.Marshall@prufoxroach.com](mailto:James.Marshall@prufoxroach.com)

#### REMINDER:

**DUES FOR 2013 ARE DUE NOW!!!!**

**Send to Jim Marshall, address above**

**Members who have NOT paid their dues:**

**Charles Camp, Coll Coll, Suzanne Gibson, Bob Heinly,  
Mike Houdart, Eddy O'Malley, Catherine Parry, John &  
Judy Piokowski**

#### Minutes: CMCCWRT Business Meeting 18 April 2013

Andy Lolli, former President, in the absence of Pres. Burke, called the meeting to order. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence not only for those who put their lives in danger to serve our country, but also all those affected by the Boston Marathon bombing.

Andy announced that John is undergoing hip replacement surgery on 19 April. John hopes to be able to attend the meeting in May but it will depend on his health. Andy asks all members to send their good wishes and prayers John's way.

Motion made to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, printed in the April newsletter, as written; motion seconded and approved.

Treasurer Marshall made his report, motion made to accept the report and file for audit, seconded and approved. Hard copies of the Treasurer's Reports available from the Treasurer.

Lou Bishop announced he had placed material on a lot of various Civil War re-enactments and other activities at the back of the room. Members were welcome to take copies of any items they were interested in.

A motion was made to donate money to the Shenandoah Battlefield restoration group. We will send them half of what is in our donation jar at the end of the night. Motion seconded and passed.

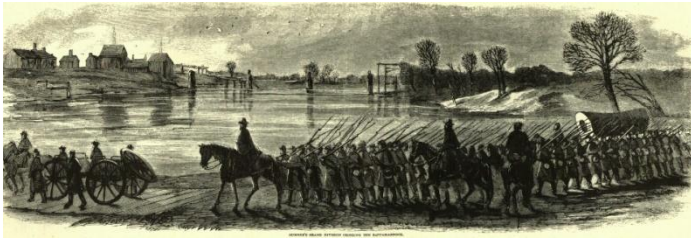
Susan from MAC advised us on various Civil War related events that MAC will be putting on this year. She left a list of them, which will be published in the newsletter. Some of them

are free, some require a small fee. Events include Civil War encampments at the Emlen Physick Estate throughout the summer (29 June and 13 Oct are the ones still ahead of us as this goes to press), and on 18 May (Armed Services Day) there will be a special reading of a recently discovered letter from Col. Henry Sawyer; reading will be at the WWII watchtower at Sunset Beach. These will be announced every month in a "Local Events" section of this newsletter, and check the MAC website for updated information. [www.capemaymac.org](http://www.capemaymac.org) is the URL. Tickets for events can be purchased at the Washington Street Mall Information Booth, or at either Hill House or the Carriage House Visitor's Center at the Emlen Physick Estate.

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned so the presentation on the Navies in the Civil War could begin.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Munson-Siter  
Secretary



### Important Civil War Events in May

1861

- 3 Battle at Philippi (now WV)
- 10 Battle at Big Bethel (VA)
- 11 Western Virginia counties create separate government

1862

- 1 Lee takes command of Confederate army in Richmond
- 6 Union forces occupy Memphis
- 8 Battle of Cross Keys (VA)
- 9 Battle of Port Republic (VA)
- 26 Battle of Mechanicsville (VA)
- 27 Battle of Gaines' Mill (VA)
- 29 Battle of Savage's Station (VA)
- 30 Battle of Glendale (VA)

1863

- 9 Battle of Brandy Station (VA)
- 15 Second Battle of Winchester
- 20 West Virginia admitted to Union as 35th state

1864

- 1-14 Battle of Cold Harbor (VA)
- 10 Battle of Brice's Crossroads (MS)
- 11-12 Battle of Trevilian Station (VA)
- 15 Initial Union attacks at Petersburg
- 18 Battle of Lynchburg (VA)
- 27 Battle of Kennesaw Mountain (GA)



### Current Civil War Related Events in June

#### Local Events

- 26 April – 10 Nov:** At the Carriage House Gallery at the Emlen Physick Estate, *Cape May's Chalfonte Hotel: A Living National Landmark*, the exhibit celebrates the history of the hotel, which was built by Civil War hero Col. Henry Sawyer.
- 29 Jun:** Civil War Encampment on the grounds of the Physic Estate.
- 24 Jun – 4 Sept:** For \$25 a person, there will be a presentation on the history of the hotel followed by their Southern Fried Chicken Dinner. Will be offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 5:30pm.

- 8-9 **NJ** Reenactment, "Lambertville Civil War Living History Weekend," at the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum in Lambertville. Camps, battles and demonstrations plus the National Civil War Field Music School. \$10. [lambertvillecivilwarreenactment.com](http://lambertvillecivilwarreenactment.com)

#### Non-Local Events

### Arlington House (VA) restored

Tours of Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial, are back to normal after six years of restoration. The project forced some areas of the home to be closed and some historic furniture was temporarily removed. Arlington House is located in the Arlington National Cemetery across the Potomac River from Washington DC. Tours are free. The building is open 9:30 am-4:30 pm. [nps.gov/arho](http://nps.gov/arho)

### 150th anniversary stamps

The Vicksburg (MS) Campaign and the Battle of Gettysburg (PA) are commemorated with 150th-anniversary stamps this year. First-Day-of-Issue sales are scheduled May 23 at the Gettysburg and Vicksburg National Military Park visitor centers. [nps.gov/gett](http://nps.gov/gett) and [nps.gov/vick](http://nps.gov/vick)





Battle of Brandy Station (VA)

- 1 **VA** Walking tour, "From Belles to Battleaxes: Women of Civil War Richmond," begins at the Bell Tower on Capitol Square in Richmond. 10:30 am. \$10. [moc.org](http://moc.org)
- 1 **PA** "An Evening with the Painting," special two-hour, after-hours view of and talks about the Gettysburg Cyclorama. 6 pm. \$20/adult. Tickets: [gettysburgfoundation.org](http://gettysburgfoundation.org)
- 1-2 **PA** Reenactment, "Civil War Reunion" at Pennypacker Mills, " 5 Haldeman Road, Schwenksville. Camps and demonstrations 10 am-5 pm Saturday, 10 am-4 pm Sunday. Battles both days. Free. [civilwarreunion.org](http://civilwarreunion.org)
- 1-2 **VA** Living history, "A Gathering of Civil War Eagles: The High Water Mark," at the Old Court House Civil War Museum in Winchester. 1863 events discussed and debated by Civil War "commanders." [civilwarmuseum.org](http://civilwarmuseum.org) or 304-466-2030.
- 1-2 **VA** Anniversary living history, talks and tours at the Cold Harbor battlefield, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. 10 am-4 pm each day. Free. [nps.gov/rich](http://nps.gov/rich)
- 2 **VA** Living history, "Vintage Base Ball" at Oatlands, 20850 Oatlands Plantation Lane (just off Route 15 near Leesburg). Gates open at noon. Base ball 1-4 pm. Fee charged. 703-327-9777.
- 5-9 **VA** Bus tour, "Shenandoah Valley," visits Cross Keys, Winchester and New Market battlefields and other Valley sites. Based in Winchester. Detailed information: [matthannatravel.com/sesquicentennial.html](http://matthannatravel.com/sesquicentennial.html)

- 6 **MD** Lecture, "Sister Soldiers of the Civil War," at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, 401 Museum Drive in City Park, Hagerstown. 6-8 pm. \$25 with dinner, \$5 lecture only. \$5. [wcmfa.org](http://wcmfa.org)
- 7-9 **VA** Anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Brandy Station on the battlefield north of Culpeper. [brandystationfoundation.com](http://brandystationfoundation.com)
- 8 **MD** Talk, "Clara Barton's Civil War Career," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 2 pm. Free with museum admission. [civilwarmed.org](http://civilwarmed.org)
- 8 **VA** Walking tour, "Fleetwood Hill" on the Brandy Station battlefield north of Culpeper. 9 am-noon. Free. Reservations appreciated: 540-219-7478. [brandystationfoundation.com/sesquicentennial.htm](http://brandystationfoundation.com/sesquicentennial.htm)
- 8 **VA** Car-caravan tour, "Brandy Station," anniversary tour of the battlefield sponsored by the Loudoun Civil War Round Table. 8:30 am-5 pm. Free. First come, first served. Register: [eventbrite.com/event/6110307093](http://eventbrite.com/event/6110307093)
- 8 **VA** "An Evening with Robert E. Lee," commemorates the Confederate commander's advance through the Valley in 1863, at the Luray Valley Museum, 970 US Hwy 211, Luray. 540-743-6551.
- 8 **VA** Living history, "Civil War Fort Day," at Fort Ward in Alexandria. Camps, demonstrations and special tours. 10 am-4 pm. \$2/adult. 703-746-4848.
- 8 **VA** Van tour, "1864 Bermuda Hundred Campaign," begins at Henricus Park, 251 Henricus Park Road, Chester (south of Richmond). 10 am-2 pm. \$15. Registration: 804-751-4946 or [chesterfieldhistory.com](http://chesterfieldhistory.com)
- 8 **VA** Living history, "Mosby's Rangers" at the Rector House, 1461 Atoka Road, near Marshall. 7:30 pm. \$8/adult. [mosbyheritagearea.org](http://mosbyheritagearea.org)
- 8 **PA** "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital: Candlelight at Christ Church," 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.
- 8-9 **PA** Living history, infantry camps and demonstrations at Spangler Spring and the Pennsylvania Memorial, Gettysburg battlefield. Free. [nps.gov/gett](http://nps.gov/gett)
- 8-9 **MD** Living history, camp and demonstrations at the Ellicott City Station, B&O Railroad Museum in Ellicott City. 11 am-4 pm. Free with admission. [borail.org/June-ec.aspx](http://borail.org/June-ec.aspx)
- 8-9 **MD** Living history, "S.D. Lee at Sharpsburg Artillery Weekend," camp and demonstrations at the Antietam

		National Battlefield. Free with park admission. <a href="http://nps.gov/anti">nps.gov/anti</a>			pm. Free. 717-334-5212.
8-9	MD	Living history, anniversary program at the Monocacy National Battlefield visitor center near Frederick. <a href="http://nps.gov/mono">nps.gov/mono</a>	15	VA	Book talk, "Sunstroke and Ankle-Deep Mud," a tour of the Union II Corps march to Gettysburg at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim in Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560.
9	VA	Ranger programs, "When the Bells Ring," the Petersburg militia, at the Petersburg National Battlefield. 11 am and 3 pm. Free with park admission. <a href="http://nps.gov/pete">nps.gov/pete</a>	15	VA	Living history, "Road to Destiny: The Route to Gettysburg," camp of Union soldiers following Confederates north at the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, Iron Bridge Road, in Bristoe. 10 am-4 pm. Free. Donations welcome. 703-366-3049.
9	VA	Tour, "Mosby Safe Houses," open-house refuges in John S. Mosby's Confederacy in Northern Virginia. 1-4 pm. \$40. <a href="http://mosbyheritagearea.org">mosbyheritagearea.org</a>	15	VA	Living history at Star Fort, camps and demonstrations at the fort, Fortress Drive and US 522 in Winchester. Special youth program offered 10 am-2 pm. Free. <a href="http://ShenandoahatWar.org">ShenandoahatWar.org</a>
12	VA	Talk, "Brandy Station Civil War Conversation," at Baine's Books and Coffee, 205 Main St, Appomattox. 12:15 pm. Free. <a href="http://moc.org">moc.org</a>	15	VA	Seminar and tour, "Perfectly Wild: The Second Battle of Winchester." Morning lecture at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester, followed by carpool driving tour of the battlefield. \$20. <a href="http://ShenandoahatWar.org">ShenandoahatWar.org</a>
13	MD	Lecture, "Lee's Retreat from Gettysburg," at the Carroll Community College, 1601 Washington Road, Westminster. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$35. 410-386-8100.	15	VA	Living history, "Soldier and Civilian Life in 1863" Camps, music, demonstrations and candlelight tours at Grand Caverns in Grottoes. More info: 540-249-5705.
13	VA	Lecture, "The 155th Pennsylvania Infantry During the Civil War," at the Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas. 7 pm. Free. 703-792-4754.	15	VA	Bus tour, "John S. Mosby," visits his Northern Virginia haunts. 8:30 am-5:30 pm. \$75. Details, departure site, registration: 703-971-4984.
14	VA	Car-caravan tour, "Second Battle of Winchester," anniversary date tour. Begins at the Pritchard-Grim Farm, 610 Battle Park Drive, Winchester. 4 pm. Free. <a href="http://ShenandoahatWar.org">ShenandoahatWar.org</a>	15	VA	Living history, "Civil War Hut Reconstruction," at Montpelier, home of James Madison, near Orange. Take the trail across from the old Montpelier train station on Route 20. 10 am-4 pm. More info: 540-672-2728 or <a href="http://montpelier.org">montpelier.org</a>
14	VA	Walking tour, "Star Fort and the Second Battle of Winchester," at Star Fort, Fortress Drive and US 522 in Winchester. 7 pm. Free. <a href="http://ShenandoahatWar.org">ShenandoahatWar.org</a>	15	VA	Living history, music, special programs and more, "Juneteenth at City Point," celebrates emancipation at the City Point unit (Hopewell) of the Petersburg National Battlefield. 10 am-2 pm. Free. <a href="http://nps.gov/pete">nps.gov/pete</a>
14-16	VA	Anniversary activities commemorating the Battles of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville. Special exhibits all weekend, Friday evening talk, Saturday reenactment at Aldie plus area house tours. Sunday living history at Middleburg and Goose Creek Bridge and reenactment in Upperville. All free. Complete details: <a href="http://mosbyheritagearea.org">mosbyheritagearea.org</a>	15	VA	Walking tour of Fort Huger, Confederate fort on the James River at 15080 Talcott Terrace near Smithfield. 10 am. Free. 757-357-0115.
15	MD	Walking tour, "Civil War Annapolis," begins at the information booth at the City Dock. 10 am-noon. \$16/adult. <a href="http://annapolistours.com">annapolistours.com</a>	15	VA	Van tour, "Capital of the Confederacy," leaves from Lee Hall in Newport News. 8 am-5 pm. \$50. More info: <a href="http://leehall.org">leehall.org</a> . Reservations: 757-888-3371.
15	PA	Music, brass band concert at the Gettysburg National Military Park visitor center plus evening concert at the Pennsylvania Memorial. <a href="http://nps.gov/gett">nps.gov/gett</a>	15-16	PA	Living history, infantry camps and demonstrations at Spangler Spring and Pitzer Woods, Gettysburg battlefield. Free. <a href="http://nps.gov/gett">nps.gov/gett</a>
15	PA	"Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital: Candlelight at Christ Church," 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 8			

- 15-16 **MD** Living history, at the Steppingstone Farm Museum, 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace. Camps and demonstrations, ladies' tea and more. 11 am-4 pm. \$5. [steppingstonemuseum.org](http://steppingstonemuseum.org)
- 16 **VA** Boat tours, "Civil War on the James River," two-hour tours leave from Deep Bottom Park east of Richmond. 9 and 11:30 am. \$50. Reservations, details: 804-938-2350.
- 16 **VA** Ranger programs, "The Flags at Five Forks," at the Five Forks unit of the Petersburg National Battlefield. 1 and 3 pm. Free. [nps.gov/pete](http://nps.gov/pete)
- 21 **VA** Talk, "Vicksburg," at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. Noon. Free with admission. [moc.org](http://moc.org)
- 21-23 **VA** Bus tour, "Mosby's Confederacy," begins at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. [shencivilwar.org](http://shencivilwar.org)
- 21-25 **PA** Conference, "The Civil War in 1863," speakers, book signings and battlefield tours in Gettysburg, sponsored by Gettysburg College and the Gettysburg National Military Park. [gettysburg.edu/cwi/conference](http://gettysburg.edu/cwi/conference)
- 22 **PA** Civil War Ball at the National Watch and Clock Museum, 514 Poplar St, Columbia. Music, dance commemorating the burning of the Wrightsville Bridge. 6:30 pm. \$30/couple. [nawcc.org](http://nawcc.org)
- 22 **PA** Living history, talks and music commemorating the "Road to Gettysburg" at the Andrew Carnegie Free Library and Music Hall, 300 Beechwood Ave, Carnegie. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 412-276-3456 extension 7.
- 22 **PA** Lecture, "The June 22nd Skirmish of Monterey Pass," at the Rolando Woods Lions Club Park, Route 16 and Charmian Road, near Blue Ridge Summit. 6:30 pm. Free. [montereypassbattlefield.org](http://montereypassbattlefield.org)
- 22 **PA** "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital: Candlelight at Christ Church," 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.
- 22 **VA** Ranger program, "Charge of the 1st Marine Heavy Artillery," at the Petersburg National Battlefield. 2 pm. Free with park admission. [nps.gov/pete](http://nps.gov/pete)
- 22 **VA** Ranger program, "Marble Men," at the Poplar Grove National Cemetery near Petersburg. 7 pm. Free. [nps.gov/pete](http://nps.gov/pete)
- 22-23 **VA** Living history, "The Long March North to Gettysburg: Major-General Winfield S. Hancock's 2nd Corps," at Mt. Zion Historic Park in Aldie. 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-3 pm Sunday. \$5/adult. 703-327-9777.
- 22-23 **VA** Living history, "CSA Marines," camps and demonstrations at the Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park, 6541 Saylers Creek Road, near Rice. 804-561-7510.
- 22-23 **VA** Anniversary living history, talks and tours at the Gaines' Mill battlefield, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. 10 am-4 pm each day. Free. [nps.gov/rich](http://nps.gov/rich)
- 22-23 **PA** Living history, infantry camps and demonstrations at Spangler Spring, the Pennsylvania Memorial and Pitzer Woods, Gettysburg battlefield. Free. [nps.gov/gett](http://nps.gov/gett)
- 22-23 **MD** Living history, camps and weapons firing demonstrations at the Antietam National Battlefield. Free with park admission. [nps.gov/anti](http://nps.gov/anti)
- 27 **VA** Lecture, "Weapon Changes during the Civil War," at the Museum of the Confederacy in Appomattox. 6:30 pm. \$5. Reservations: [moc.org](http://moc.org) or 855-649-1861 extension 203.
- 27 **VA** Lecture, "The Campaign of 1863," troop movement maps, at the Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave, Manassas. 7 pm. Free. 703-792-4754.
- 27-30 **PA** Reenactment, "150th Gettysburg Reenactment," near Gettysburg. [bluegraygettysburg.com](http://bluegraygettysburg.com)
- 28 **PA** "Flames Across the Susquehanna," commemorates the burning of the Columbia-Wrightsville Bridge, with living history and special fire re-creation in Wrightsville and Columbia. [rivertownes.org/schedule.htm](http://rivertownes.org/schedule.htm)
- 28-30 **MD** Living history and special programs commemorate the fighting at Westminster and the camps at Union Mills on the road to Gettysburg. At the Union Mills Homestead, 3311 Littlestown Pike, near Westminster. [unionmills.org](http://unionmills.org) or 410-848-2288.
- 29 **VA** Living history, "The Civil War Impact on Petersburg," at Poplar Lawn Park in Petersburg. 10 am-4:30 pm. Free. [nps.gov/pete](http://nps.gov/pete)
- 29 **VA** Ranger program, "Lincoln at the Siege," at the City Point unit (Hopewell) of the Petersburg National Battlefield. 7 pm. Free. [nps.gov/pete](http://nps.gov/pete)
- 29 **DC** Bike tour, "Civil War Defenses of Washington," follows off-road trails to remains of the city's fortifications. Begins at Fort Dupont Park, Fort Dupont Drive SE in

- Washington. 10 am. Free. Sign up: 202-426-7723.
- 29 **PA** Tour, "Stonewall Jackson's Artillery: Poindexter Farm at Malvern Hill," departs from Willis United Methodist Church, 8360 Willis Church Road in Henrico (near Richmond). 10 am. Free. 804-652-3409.
- 29 **PA** "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital: Candlelight at Christ Church," 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 8 pm. Free. 717-334-5212.
- 29 **MD** Lecture, "The Campaign for Vicksburg 150 Years Later," with Craig Symonds at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 4 pm. Free. [surratt.org](http://surratt.org)
- 29-30 **PA**  Walking tour series, "Historic Wrightsville," highlights town's 150th anniversary history: Wrightsville tours (2.5 hours) Saturday 9 am and 6 pm, Sunday 3 pm. Fairview Cemetery tour noon Saturday and Sunday. Union and Mt. Pisgah Cemeteries 4 pm Saturday. Wrightsville riverfront tour 2 pm Saturday. "Civil War Comes to Wrightsville" tour 2 pm. Sunday. [historicwrightsvillepa.org](http://historicwrightsvillepa.org)
- 29-30 **PA** Living history at the Seminary Ridge Museum in Gettysburg. Camps and demonstrations 9 am-6 pm Saturday, 10 am-6 pm Sunday. Music 7-9 pm Saturday, 5 pm Sunday. Skirmishes at 11 am Saturday, 1 pm Sunday. [seminaryridgemuseum.org](http://seminaryridgemuseum.org)
- 29-30 **PA** Book talks and signing at the Gettysburg National Military Park visitor center. Free. Details: 717-339-2109.
- 30 **PA**  Anniversary commemoration, "A New Birth of Freedom" evening program at the Gettysburg National Military Park. Talks and living history near Meade's Headquarters followed by a procession to illuminated Soldiers' National Cemetery. Free. [nps.gov/gett](http://nps.gov/gett)

### Murphy's Laws of Combat – from the 42nd Rainbow Division Reveille Newsletter, January 2008

1. You are not a superman.
2. It it's stupid but works, it isn't stupid.
3. Don't look conspicuous – it draws fire. (This is why aircraft carriers are called 'bomb magnets')
4. When in doubt, empty your magazine.
5. Never share a foxhole with someone braver than you are.
6. Never forget that your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.
7. If your attack is going really well, it's an ambush.
8. No plan survives the first contact intact.

9. All five-second grenade fuses will burn down in three seconds.
10. Try to look unimportant because the bad guys may be low on ammo.
11. If you are forward of your position, the artillery will fall short.
12. The enemy diversion you are ignoring will be the main attack.
13. The important things are always simple.
14. The simple things are always hard.
15. The easy way is always mined.
16. If you are short of everything except enemy, you are in combat.
17. When you have secured an area, don't forget to tell the enemy.
18. Incoming fire has the right of way.
19. Friendly fire isn't.
20. If the enemy is in range, so are you.
21. No combat ready unit has ever passed inspection.
22. Thing that must be together to work, usually can't be shipped together.
23. Radios will fail as soon as you really need fire support.
24. Anything you do can get you shot – including doing nothing.
25. Tracers work both ways.
26. The only thing more accurate than incoming fire is incoming friendly fire.
27. Make it tough for the enemy to get in and you can't get out.
28. If you take more than your fair share of objectives, you will have more than your fair share of objectives to take.
29. When both sides are convinced they are about to lose, they are both right.
30. Professional soldiers are predictable, but the world is full of amateurs.
31. Murphy was a dogface.



### CIVIL WAR TREASURES:

#### The Needle and Thimble Brigade: Women in Civil War Baton Rouge

by Taylor, Michael **Issue:** Summer 2012

"One thing is my heart's desire now, and that is, to be a man," an anonymous writer, who signed herself only as "Anxiety," confided to the editor of the Baton Rouge *Gazette and Comet* in February 1862. "[A]nd would I were one, I would have left 'footprints' in the blood of the Yankees long ago." In an audacious reversal of the nineteenth-century notion of "separate

spheres,” Miss Anxiety publicly derided Louisiana’s “ornamental young men” who “clad themselves in the armor of excuses” and attended to their businesses rather than their state’s and the South’s honor. “In view of all these things,” she continued, tongue in cheek, “I move that the Red Stick girls form themselves into a company, called ‘The Young Men’s Protectors,’ and devise plans to take care of these heroes, who have won so much glory at home.”<sup>1</sup>

Although they never served as soldiers, women did in fact play important roles in Baton Rouge during the Civil War, and in some cases as protectors of a different sort. In this issue’s “treasures” column, we look at a number of items from the LSU Libraries’ Special Collections that shed light on women’s involvement in the struggle between North and South as it played out in Louisiana’s capital city.

A few months after the war began, the editor of the Baton Rouge *Weekly Advocate* reported that a group of women, whom he dubbed “The Needle and Thimble Brigade,” had begun meeting across the street from the paper’s offices to make clothes for Confederate soldiers. “From morning till late evening,” he observed, “do our noble matrons and maidens ply the needle.”<sup>2</sup>

When the Union Navy sailed up the Mississippi in the spring of 1862 intent on snatching Baton Rouge from the Confederate fold, a woman was unknowingly responsible for a minor but deadly fracas that heightened concerns about women’s safety. On May 28, three weeks after Federal forces took control of the capital, five of Commodore David F. Farragut’s men set off for the riverbank in a small unarmed boat in search of a woman to do their laundry. A band of guerrillas had somehow made it into the town and fired on the sailors as they neared the shore. Two U.S. gunboats returned fire, destroying several waterfront shanties and accidentally killing three women. In his diary, the Baton Rouge planter John C. Elder recorded that he had seen women running for safety as the attack got underway. He gave his buggy to two of them, one coddling a newborn baby in her arms, to help them escape.<sup>3</sup>

Many feared that worse was to come. Leon Bonnecaze, the Vice-Consul of France in Baton Rouge, wrote to Farragut immediately after the incident urging him not to hold the townspeople responsible for the actions of guerrillas and risk innocent lives “by skirmishing with your forces within the corporate limits.” The commodore replied that he could make no guarantees, but that “if time and opportunity is given, you shall have due notice for the removal of the women and children.”<sup>4</sup>

And yet when the battle of Baton Rouge commenced at daybreak on August 5, 1862, civilians were once again taken by surprise. Eliza McHatton-Ripley, the mistress of nearby Arlington Plantation, witnessed hundreds of women pouring out of the town, having been roused from their beds by gunfire, some “hatless, bonnetless, some with slippers and no stockings, some with wrappers hastily thrown over nightgowns.” She spotted a “distracted mother [carrying] an older child with wounded and bleeding feet,” and “occasionally could be descried a battered umbrella held over some delicate woman to temper the rays of what was fast becoming a blazing August sun.” Eliza had helped organize the “Campaign Sewing Society” a year earlier when hostilities began. “Its very title shows how

transient we regarded the emergency; how little we deemed the campaign would develop into a four years’ war!”<sup>5</sup>

John Morgan, a native of Clinton, Louisiana, who was wounded and captured at the battle of Baton Rouge, left us a letter in which he tells about the role women played as nurses in the weeks following the Confederate defeat. “The ladies who are left here are very devoted to the wounded soldiers,” Morgan wrote to his sister. “There is some half dozen or dozen young ladies who have been here almost all of the time, day and night, ever since we were wounded. I never saw persons take more interest in anyone than they have taken in the wounded soldiers here.” As has so often occurred, he took an interest in them in return. “I have fallen in love with Baton Rouge, or someone here, I do not know which, but am inclined to think that I will try and find out which when the war is over. I have made the acquaintance of some of the loveliest young ladies here that I have ever seen in my life.”<sup>6</sup>

It was a lady, in fact, who helped Morgan deliver his letter to his sister in what was still enemy territory. For the woman to do such a thing would have required a pass, and a pass required an affirmation of loyalty. Women routinely acquired passes from Federal authorities. One pass, shown here, was granted to Leocadie Lauzin of Baton Rouge. It allowed her to purchase pork, lard, coffee, flour, calico, and shoes in the city and carry them over the picket lines; in exchange, she was required to take an oath of allegiance and swear that she would give no “aid, comfort or information” to enemies of the United States and would use the goods “for the exclusive use of myself and my family or plantation.”<sup>7</sup>

To view any of the items mentioned above, be sure to visit the LSU Libraries’ Special Collections summer exhibit, “Old Times Here Are Not Forgotten: Remembering the Civil War,” which runs from July 30 to November 10, 2012. For more information, visit Hill Memorial Library’s website or call (225) 578-6544. *Michael Taylor is Assistant Curator of Books, LSU Libraries’ Special Collections.*

Notes:

- (1) “One of the Unprotected,” *Gazette and Comet* (Baton Rouge, La.), Mar. 8, 1862.
- (2) “The Needle and the Thimble,” *Weekly Advocate* (Baton Rouge, La.), Aug. 25, 1861.
- (3) John C. Elder Diary, Mss. 4653. Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections (LLMVC), LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
- (4) Leon Bonnecaze to David Farragut, May 28, 1862; David Farragut to Leon Bonnecaze, May 28, 1862. Abner L. Duncan Papers, Mss. 4199, LLMVC.
- (5) Eliza McHatton-Ripley, *From Flag to Flag: A Woman’s Adventures and Experiences in the South during the War, in Mexico, and in Cuba*. New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1896. 35-36, 13.
- (6) John Morgan to H. Addie Morgan, Aug. 19, 1862. John A. Morgan Papers, Mss. 1712, 1753, LLMVC.
- (7) Pass from Edward Page, Provost Marshall, for Leocadie Lauzin, Oct. 2, 1863. Gras-Lauzin Family Papers, Mss. 5, LLMVC.

## Book Review: Finding the Civil War in Your Family Album

The following book review was written by Bobbi King:

*Finding the Civil War in Your Family Album.*

by Maureen A. Taylor.

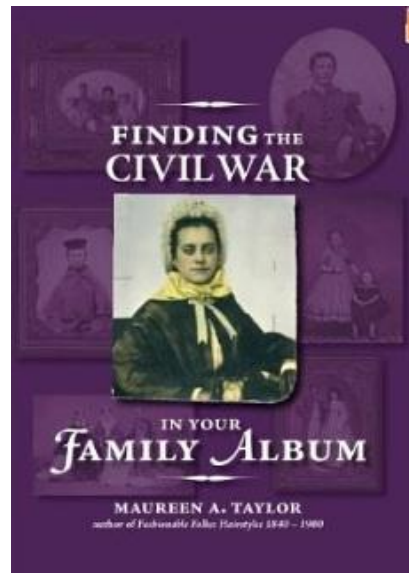
Published by Picture Perfect Press. 2011. 192 pages

Maureen Taylor began thinking about and imagining clothing styles worn decades ago when she was still just a teenager. She was invited to portray Mary Todd Lincoln in the school play for which she researched and re-created the look of Mrs. Lincoln. This could be called the prelude to a successful calling in photo identification. Examining photographs, exposing their details, and offering us the time periods in which they were created has become an important assistance to us genealogists.

The glossary itself is an education. Nearly all the words and definitions I've never seen before. Going through the new words alone took me back in time and added to my realization how different things were back then. Were the New York Knicks really named for those bouncy loose-fitting pants banded around the knee?

The bibliography with over 80 entries is a rich resource on its own for Civil War history. The researcher who wants to know more about historic photography will be well served with this list. All of her images are sourced in the back with 176 citations. The book is indexed.

Cape May County Civil War Round Table  
c/o



But, it's the pictures that are compelling.

The Confederate soldier who holds a white-knuckled grip on a malevolent Bowie held crossed against his chest glares out at us, daring you to utter a single word of dissent or murmur a hint of dispute. He's clearly keen on separating your head from your insolent body. The face of the colored boy with a grimace poorly disguised as a smile situated below certain unsmiling eyes hints to us the hidden presence of a damaged spirit presenting the sum total of the experience of slavery.

There are so many. Photographs of unidentified soldiers, African-Americans, couples, children with inquisitive faces that dread the answer, women with pursed, stubbornly resolute lips; we yearn to know the stories behind them all.

As expected from the expert, and from someone with previously published excellent books on the topic, Ms. Taylor explains daguerreotype, ambrotypes, tintypes, cartes de visite, photo albums, revenue stamps, and women's, children's, and men's clothing. Her chapter on mourning rituals with the accompanying photographs are deeply affecting.

Ms. Taylor has the uncanny ability to stage photographs that draw us in and offer no escape. Her text never gets in the way of the picture, and rightfully so. The people in the photographs deserve our complete attention. <She's also a well known genealogist and has written many books on the subject of researching your family history.—PAMS>

*Finding the Civil War in Your Family Album* is available from the author at <http://www.maurentaylor.com/publications/> as well as from Amazon at <http://goo.gl/a3Snc>.