



Interested in the Civil War or World War II? Want to learn about the weaponry and tactics used by the British infantry in the Victorian Era? Or maybe you are just a history buff who loves it all. Historic Cold Spring Village will host its annual Military Timeline Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, June 17-18, which will feature encampments, weaponry displays and demonstrations from living history groups depicting various conflicts throughout the centuries.

- **Civil War Weekend = 16 – 17 September**

Visitors can tour Union and Confederate camps and meet authentically clad and equipped military and civilian reenactors who will discuss the everyday lives of Civil War soldiers and the roles civilians played in supporting them.

Cape May County Historical Society & Museum

The County Historical Society and Museum would like us to add that they are looking for volunteers to help with many aspects of their work – from helping in the library, working in the gardens, to acting as tour guides/docents in the museum. They also have lost a huge amount of funding from the county; please support their fund raising efforts!! They are also always ready to welcome new members as well.

Cape May County Civil War Round Table Newsletter = May 2017

Meeting Dates for 2017

18 May: Mr. Carmen Fiori will be telling us about *The Two Custers*; the “Civil War” Custer compared to the “Plains Indian” Custer.

Refreshments: Kurt Haywood

15 June: Presentation of Civil War Medicine. **Refreshments:** Mike Golla

20 July: Mr. Rich Chimeminto of Cape May’s MAC will be lecturing about Civil War music. **Refreshments:**

17 August

21 September

19 October

16 November: Lou Bishop

?? December

LIST OF LOCAL EVENTS!!!

If anyone knows of local Civil War related events for 2017, please contact the Secretary so the information can be added to future issues of the newsletter.

Mid Atlantic Center for the Arts

May

Armed Forces Day Celebration = 20 May

Join the Friends of the World War II Tower in a tribute to those who served our country.

Cold Spring Village

June

Military Timeline Weekend = 17 – 18 June:

Round Table Officers

President: Andy Lolli
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Email: andylolli@comcast.net

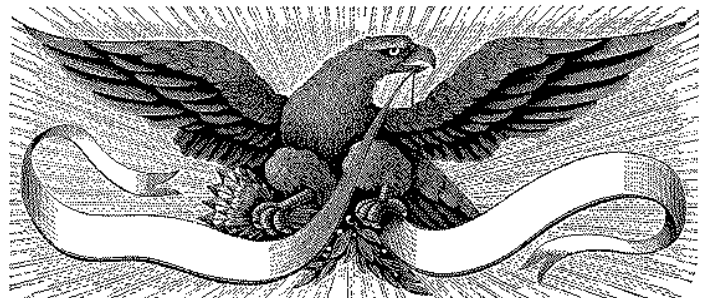
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Treasurer: Jim Herr
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PLEASE NOTE: DUES ARE DUE!

Please mail your dues to our Treasurer, Jim Marshall. His address is above. Dues help pay for speakers for the group. Those who want hard copies of the newsletter pay more to help defray copy and postage costs. Dues are: \$30 for electronic newsletter and \$35 for snail mailed hard copy



Minutes of the Business Meeting of 20 April 2017

President Lolli brought the meeting to order. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for those who stand in harm's way to protect our country.

There was no old business to discuss.

New business: John Herr introduced himself as the new Treasurer, and he told everyone what the current dues rate is. As a reminder, the May newsletter is the last one those who want hard copies of the newsletter but have not yet paid dues will receive.

Next month, Mr. Carmen Fiori will be discussing General Armstrong Custer, especially contrasting the Custer who fought in the Civil War with the man who was killed in combat at Little Big Horn.

June will see a lecture on Medicine during the Civil War, and July will have a presentation on Civil War Music.

President Lolli at this point had several guests introduce themselves.

Secretary Munson-Siter mentioned that the husband of Donna Mattalucci, the director of the Museum of Cape May County, was in a hospital in Philadelphia waiting for open heart surgery, and she had sent a get well card to the family in the name of the Civil War Round Table. She also mentioned that there is a special exhibit on WWI at the Museum until 6 June, that focuses on how Cape May County was affected by the War, and how the County supported the war effort.

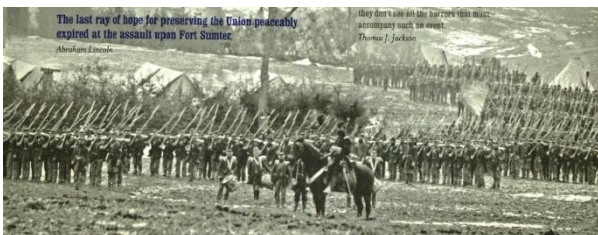
VP Bishop handed out flyers about a conference on Stonewall Jackson that will happen next week.

Andy reminded everyone that there is a list for those who wish to volunteer to bring in refreshments for the group, and asked everyone to sign up for a month.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting so the presentation could begin; motion seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Munson-Siter



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)

Civil War Related Events = June 2017

- 1 VA Lecture, "The Paradox of Robert Edward Lee," at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond. Noon. \$6/adult. vahistorical.org
- 3 PA "Evening with the Painting," special tour of the Battle of Gettysburg Cyclorama at the Gettysburg NMP

visitor center. 6-7:30 pm. \$20/adult.
gettysburgfoundation.org

3 VA Walking tour of Fort Huger, a Confederate fort on the James River, 15080 Talcott Terrace, Isle of Wight County, near Smithfield. 10 am. Free.
historicisleofwight.com

3 VA Talk and walking tour, "Battle of Smithfield," begins at the Isle of Wight Museum, 103 Main St, Smithfield. 2 pm. Free.
historicisleofwight.com/events.html

3-4 MD Living history, "Artillery Weekend," camp and demonstrations at the Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick. 9 am-5 pm. Free. nps.gov/mono

3-4 VA Living history, "Civil War Weekend," at Belle Grove Plantation, 9221 Belle Grove Road, near King George. Camp and demonstrations with Civil War "boot camp" Saturday 9 am-4 pm both days. Afternoon tea both days. \$10/adult per day advance, \$15 at door for boot camp. Additional fee for teas.
bellegroveplantation.com/calendar

3-4 VA Anniversary living history and ranger tours on the Cold Harbor battlefield, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park, 5515 Anderson-Wright Drive, Mechanicsville. Free. nps.gov/rich

3-4 VA Reenactment, "On to Richmond," at Endview Plantation and Lee Hall in Newport News. Living history camps and demonstrations and battles each day. More info: endview.org/reenactment-information.php

6 VA Living history, "Union Artillery Demonstration," at the Petersburg National Battlefield. 1-4 pm. Free with park admission. nps.gov/pete

7 MD Lecture, "Civil War Medicine Hollywood Style — The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," at the Jacob Rohrbach Inn, 138 W Main St, Sharpsburg. 7 pm. Free.
jacob-rohrbach-inn.com

9 VA Living history. "An Evening at Ben Lomond Historic Site," with "happy hour" drink tickets and living history demonstrations at this Manassas historic site for ages 21 and older. \$15. Reservations suggested: 703-367-7872.

10 MD Lecture, "Love, Sex and Consequences" during the Civil War, at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 4 pm. Free. surrattmuseum.org

10 VA Book talk, A Civil War Captain and His Lady, at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. 1 pm. Free with admission. acwm.org Buy Book

10 VA Boat tour, "Potomac Blockade," includes Freestone Point and other Confederate fort sites, 10 am-1 pm. \$45. Reservations: 703-792-4754.

11 VA Lecture, "The Gettysburg Campaign in the Mosby Heritage Area," at Mt. Zion Historic Park, 40309 John Mosby Highway, Aldie. \$10. mosbyheritagearea.org

13 VA Anniversary of the Second Battle of Winchester with special tours at the Kernstown battlefield south of Winchester. 10 am-4 pm. Details, times: kernstownbattle.org

14 MD Lecture, "Antietam: The Soldiers' Battle," at the Jacob Rohrbach Inn, 138 W Main St, Sharpsburg. 7 pm. Free. jacob-rohrbach-inn.com

16-18 PA Bus and walking tours, living history lectures and more, "Civil War Days in Harrisburg. Details: nationalcivilwarmuseum.org/events

17 PA Living history, "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Lutheran Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 7:30 pm. Free.
christgettysburg.org/songs-and-stories-of-a-civil-war-hospital

17 VA Car-caravan tour, "Sabres & Saddles: Cavalry at Cedar Creek," begins at NPS station, 7712 Main St, Middletown. 7 pm. Free. nps.gov/cebe

17 VA Car-caravan tour, "Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville," begins at the Aldie Mill, 39401 John Mosby Highway, Aldie. 3 pm. \$20. Reservations required. 540-687-5188. More info: mosbyheritagearea.org

17 VA Van tour, "The Second Battle of Manassas," leaves from Lee Hall in Newport News. 8 am-5 pm. \$50. More info, reservations: 757-888-3371 extension 306.

17-18 WV Living history, "Guard House, 1864," at the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. 11 am- 4 pm. Free with park admission. nps.gov/hafe

17-18 PA Reenactment, "Lehigh Valley Civil War Days," in Whitehall. Camps open 9 am-9:45 pm Saturday, 9 am-noon Sunday. Artillery night firing 8:45 pm Saturday. Reenactment 10:45 am Saturday. Free. Directions, schedule: friendsofcampgeiger.webs.com

18 MD Lecture, "Chambersburg's Only Hope," at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum in Keedysville. 3 pm. "Pay What You Please" event. www.civilwarmed.org

18 VA Talk and tour, "A Story in Stone: The Rehabilitation of Poplar Grove National Cemetery." at the cemetery near Petersburg. Tour 1 pm, talk 3 pm. Free. nps.gov/pete

20 MD Lecture, "Civil War Voices," at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore. Noon. Free. mdhs.org

21 MD Lecture, "Faces from the 9th Corps at Antietam," at the Jacob Rohrbach Inn, 138 W Main St, Sharpsburg. 7 pm. Free. jacob-rohrbach-inn.com

24 PA Lecture, "Iron Dawn: The Monitor, the Merrimack and the Civil War Sea Battle that Changed History," at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg. 1 pm. Free (regular admission to galleries applies). nationalcivilwarmuseum.org/events

24 PA Living history, "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Lutheran Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 7:30 pm. Free. christgettysburg.org/songs-and-stories-of-a-civil-war-hospital

24 MD Living history, "Ship's Company," Union navy at the USS Constellation, Inner Harbor, in Baltimore. 10 am-4 pm. Free with admission. historicships.org/constellation.html

24 VA "Civil War Bugling," at the Petersburg National Battlefield visitor center. 10 am-4 pm. Free with park admission. nps.gov/pete

24 VA Bus tour, annual John F. Mosby tour features related sites in Fairfax County. Leaves from Truro Rectory, 10520 Main St, Fairfax at 8:30 am. \$75. More info, reservations: 703-971-4984.

24 VA Lecture, "Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County, Part I," at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560.

24-25 NY Living history, tours, talks and more at the dedication of the Elmira Civil War Prison Camp site on the riverfront in Elmira. 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-1 pm Sunday. Free, donations welcome. Map, more info: elmiraprisoncamp.com

24-25 MD Living history, infantry camp and demonstrations at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Demonstrations 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm Saturday; 11 am and 1 pm Sunday. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti

24-25 WV Living history, "Under Fire: Hold the High Ground, 1862," at the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. 11 am-4 pm. Free with park admission. nps.gov/hafe

25 VA Lecture, "Raised from Obscurity: The Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville on the Road to Gettysburg," at the Graffiti House (Brandy Station Battlefield), 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station. 2 pm. Free. brandystationfoundation.com

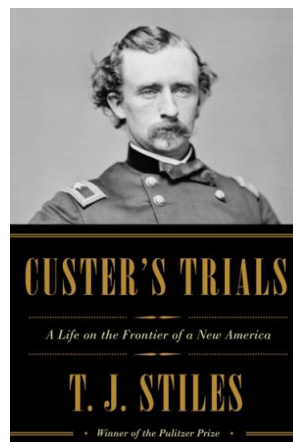
25 VA Living history, "Confederate Artillery Demonstration," at the Petersburg National Battlefield. 1-4 pm. Free with park admission. nps.gov/pete

27 GA Lecture, "Researching the Civil War," at the First Presbyterian Church, 189 Church St, Marietta. 7 pm. 770-427-0293.

28 MD Lecture, "Antietam Creek's Historic Stone Arch Bridges," at the Jacob Rohrbach Inn, 138 W Main St, Sharpsburg. 7 pm. Free. jacob-rohrbach-inn.com

28 PA Living history, "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Lutheran Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 7:30 pm. Free. christgettysburg.org/songs-and-stories-of-a-civil-war-hospital

30 PA "Evening with the Painting," special tour of the Battle of Gettysburg Cyclorama at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 6-7:30 pm. \$20/adult. gettysburgfoundation.org



Custer's Trials: A Life on the Frontier of a New America
by Stiles, T.J.

Publisher: Knopf

Retail Price: \$30.00

Issue: Summer 2016

ISBN: 9780307592644

Custer in Context: An Insightful Look at a Controversial Figure

When one produces a book about such a well-covered topic as the life of George Armstrong Custer, he or she must face the daunting challenge of explaining why the world needs yet another book about that subject. That question, after all, will be among the first that a shrewd reviewer will ask upon picking up that book. In his latest work, *Custer's Trials: A Life on the Frontier of a New America*, acclaimed biographer T.J. Stiles ably addresses that concern, arguing that a key to understanding Custer and the American public's enduring fascination with him is examining his life within its relevant historical context. Stiles, the author of *The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt* and *Jesse James: The Last Rebel of the Civil War* as well as winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Biography and the National Book Award, offers a fresh look at a familiar subject by immersing readers in the story of how Custer struggled to adapt to a modernizing America.

Stiles asserts that Custer lived on a frontier in time, as his life unfolded as the United States entered a period of rapid modernization in the mid-nineteenth century. Although he contributed to the nation's changing landscape as a hero of the Civil War and famed Indian fighter, Custer found himself stuck between the past and the future, ambivalent toward the present. His Civil War exploits helped to destroy slavery while he proved to be no champion of African American rights as well as expressed what we might call white supremacist views. Similarly, he was romantic in many of his tastes and actions yet he expressed enthusiasm for some innovations. His fame placed him in the spotlight and his struggles earned him lasting public attention, for, according to Stiles, "Custer's contradictions spoke to the millions Americans who also failed to root themselves in the new world" (xix). Furthermore, the author concludes that Custer's inability to adapt to modernity helps to explain his personal instability and tumultuous military career.

Another overarching theme of Stiles' book is that ambition drove Custer and made his life into a series of trials. From a young age, Custer was insecure, feared obscurity, and desperately sought the approval of others. This began within his household as a child as he sought to please his father while pursuing his own course through life and continued through his military career, right up to his demise at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Custer's ambition led him to be reckless at times, to the point of teetering on self-destruction, but his acumen as an army officer – particularly his leadership in combat – time and

time again saved his life and career. That, of course, came to an end in 1876, but Stiles contends that we must not fixate on Custer's death to the neglect of the rest of the story. As he ably demonstrates, looking at the totality of Custer's life and not treating it as a mere prelude to the Little Bighorn is a fruitful exercise, for doing so highlights the many forces that shape an individual – and public memory of that historical figure.

There is much to praise about *Custer's Trials*. It is a balanced book that treats Custer as neither a hero nor a villain, but rather a complex and often contradictory individual. It is also a well-rounded book that covers many facets of Custer's life and times. Indeed, it is far more than a mere military biography, as Stiles closely investigates Custer's private life, especially his passionate yet troubled marriage with Elizabeth Bacon Custer, provides concise yet insightful biographical sketches of key players in Custer's life, tackles issues of race and gender in the nineteenth century, and incorporates relevant discussions of Native American cultures and United States government actions. Firmly placing Custer's story within its historical context not only provides that narrative with a rich backdrop, but it enables readers to better appreciate the array of forces that shaped the man and his legacy. Stiles bases his study on a strong research base, for in addition to consulting relevant literature on a wide variety of topics ranging from Native American and Western history to key works on the Civil War and biographies of Custer and many of his contemporaries, he also heavily references and quotes letters, diaries, reports, and other historical documents that shed light on Custer and those around him.

There are some points of caution worth mentioning. For one, Stiles does not delve much into the events that unfolded during the Little Bighorn Campaign, as he devotes only a portion of the Epilogue to highlighting some testimony presented during Frederick W. Benteen's Court of Inquiry proceedings. Similarly, although Stiles alludes to the significance of discourse that followed Custer's demise in shaping popular memory, he does not explore Custer's afterlife trials as his image evolved over time. Also, it is worth pointing out that Stiles occasionally indulges in speculation, especially regarding Custer's possible extramarital activities. Although the historical record is not conclusive regarding whether or not Custer remained faithful to Libbie, Stiles repeatedly intimates that he was not. As a case in point, on page 155, as part of his discussion of Custer's relationship with alleged Confederate spy Annie Jones, Stiles writes, "He had allowed her to stay at his 'headquarters' (in her own tent?

in his tent? in his bed?) as he made inquiries at army hospitals.”

Ultimately, scholars and general readers alike should find value in *Custer’s Trials*. The book is well-written and engaging, including vivid descriptions of detail (such as of Custer’s many outfits) as well as effective overviews of the “big picture” (such as of the U.S. government’s Indian policy). Stiles enables readers to better understand Custer the man while also highlighting the early roots of the mythic Custer. Scholars should appreciate that Stiles throws new light on an old topic while general readers should value the book’s accessibility and insight. For these reasons and others, *Custer’s Trials* merits a place on the bookshelf alongside Robert M. Utley’s *Cavalier in Buckskin*, Evan S. Connell’s *Son of the Morning Star*, and other top Custer biographies.

Adam R. Hodge is Assistant Professor of History at Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio. His recent publications include a historiographic essay on Indian scouts that appeared in A Companion to Custer and the Little Bighorn Campaign (Wiley-Blackwell, 2015) and an article entitled “‘Our women and children cry for food, and we have no food to give them’: The Environmental Dimensions of Eastern Shoshone Dispossession,” which appeared in The Confluence (2016).

Thanks to the generosity of Civil War Trust members, nearly 1,000 acres of hallowed ground are now protected at Pennsylvania’s largest battlefield

May 11, 2017

(Gettysburg, Pa.) – The Civil War Trust today announced the acquisition of a 37-acre property associated with the first day of the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg. With this additional land, the Trust has helped save nearly 1,000 acres at Gettysburg, the bloodiest battle of the Civil War. Situated on Barlow’s Knoll, the newly preserved land saw intense combat on July 1, 1863, resulting in hundreds of casualties including Brigadier General Francis Channing Barlow.

"This is without a doubt one of the most important unprotected properties at one of the most hallowed places in America," said Trust President James Lighthizer. "Barlow’s Knoll saw crucial and costly fighting on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg, and this land will now be preserved for generations to come."

The site was acquired from Adams County for \$400,000, raised through a combination of major gifts from Trust donors and a fundraising campaign announced in October 2016. The property runs adjacent to Gettysburg National Military Park – near the monument to General Barlow – and eventually will be transferred to the National Park Service to enhance the interpretation of the battle’s first day.

"We're very grateful to the Civil War Trust for preserving this land where intense fighting occurred on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg," said Ed W. Clark, Gettysburg National Military Park. "We look forward to working with the Civil War Trust to acquire the property as part of Gettysburg National Military Park, permanently protecting the land for the American public."

The acreage – located next to the Adams County Conservation District complex – is being used for crop farming, and land use will not change as a result of the sale. Though the site qualifies for the county’s Clean and Green Program, noted Adams County Commissioners Chairman Randy Phiel, sale proceeds dramatically exceed the minimal Clean and Green annual tax income.

“The sale of county land on Barlow’s Knoll is a wonderful example of government working with the private sector to preserve historic ground for future generations while also benefiting the residents of Adams County,” added Phiel.

Early on the afternoon of July 1, 1863, General Francis Barlow placed his division of the Union Eleventh Corps on a small rise north of the Gettysburg Almshouse. Shortly thereafter, Confederates under General John B. Gordon attacked Barlow’s position, steamrolling the Federals off the knoll and across the Almshouse property below. Pockets of Yankees made short, desperate attempts to stem the tide, only to be washed away by Gordon’s impetuous men. Hundreds of men fell on the ground between the Almshouse and Barlow’s Knoll, including General Barlow himself, who was captured. Half of Barlow’s men became casualties at Gettysburg.

The Civil War Trust is the premier nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America’s hallowed battlegrounds. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields, through its Campaign 1776 initiative, the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. To date, the Trust has preserved more than 45,000 acres of battlefield land in 23 states, including 1,030 acres in Pennsylvania. Adams County, formed in 1800, witnessed the entire three-day Battle of Gettysburg.



The Civil War Trust recommends these events and activities at some of America's most famous battlefields and historic sites

April 27, 2017

(Washington, D.C.) – Following the Civil War, Americans began dedicating one day each spring to remembering those who died during the conflict. First known as Decoration Day, the popular tradition has since expanded to become our modern Memorial Day. From May 27 – 29, Americans will commemorate fallen soldiers from throughout our country's history. In honor of this time, the Civil War Trust – a national battlefield preservation organization – recommends eight activities at historic attractions nationwide.

May 27: Illumination Ceremony at Fredericksburg National Cemetery

Fredericksburg, Virginia

Join Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park for their annual illumination at the Fredericksburg National Cemetery. 15,300 candles, one for each soldier in the cemetery, will be lit by members of the Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts of the USA, and visitors can listen to a bugler play "Taps" throughout the evening. Park staff will share stories of soldiers interred there. The military park encompasses land from the Civil War battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House. More information: nps.gov/frsp

May 27: Memorial Day Celebration at Fort Scott

Fort Scott, Kansas

Visit Fort Scott National Historic Site for tours, demonstrations and living history programs about westward expansion, "Bleeding Kansas," and the war that followed. During the Civil War, Fort Scott served as a major supply depot for Union armies in the West, a general hospital for soldiers in the region, and a haven for people fleeing the war. More information: nps.gov/fosc

May 27: Memorial Day Observance at Sailor's Creek

Rice, Virginia

Sailor's Creek Battlefield, the site of Virginia's last major Civil War battle, will host a Memorial Day observance ceremony honoring our nation's veterans. Following a commemorative speech by retired Army Brigadier General Jack Mountcastle, visitors will venture outside for a wreath laying ceremony, a musket volley salute and the playing of "Taps." Park guests are also invited to a reception with barbecue and a living history program of "Soldiers through the Ages." More information: dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks

May 27: Memorial Day Parade and Events at Princeton Battlefield

Princeton, New Jersey

Fought in 1777, the Battle of Princeton was one of the most decisive battles of the American Revolution. After a Memorial Day parade through the city, The Princeton Battlefield Society will offer opportunities to watch living history demonstrations and join the 2nd Pennsylvania Regiment in Continental musket drills. Young patriots can volunteer for army drills to learn how to march and maneuver like a Continental soldier. More information: theprincetonbattlefieldsociety.org

May 27-28: Military Through the Ages at Kings Mountain

Blacksburg, South Carolina

Kings Mountain National Military Park is the site of a pivotal and significant victory by American Patriots over American Loyalists during the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War. In honor of Memorial Day, living history interpreters will represent soldiers from the French & Indian War through to today's military, and weapons demonstrations will be held throughout the day. More information: nps.gov/kimo

May 27-29: Living History Weekend at Antietam

Sharpsburg, Maryland

Throughout the weekend, volunteers will present living history programs and portray soldiers at Antietam, the bloodiest day in American history. Visitors are also invited to tour the camp and learn about what daily life would have been like for the average Confederate soldier. On May 29, the park will host a Memorial Day commemoration program and a ranger-guided tour of the battlefield. More information: nps.gov/anti

May 27-29: Memorial Day Weekend at Shiloh

Shiloh, Tennessee

Join Shiloh National Military Park for a Civil War music concert on May 27 and Civil War cannon demonstrations throughout the weekend. On Memorial Day, the park will hold a traditional observance ceremony at Shiloh National Cemetery. Fought in 1862, the Battle of Shiloh resulted in more than 23,000 casualties and was the largest engagement in the Civil War's Mississippi Valley Campaign. More information: nps.gov/shil

May 27-29: Reenactment and Commemoration at Fort Meigs

Perrysburg, Ohio

Cape May County Civil War Round Table



During the War of 1812, two victories at Fort Meigs ushered in a period of American successes that would secure the Ohio frontier. On May 27-28, reenactors portraying War of 1812 soldiers and civilians will reproduce authentic military camps and tactical demonstrations in commemoration of the First Siege, and on May 29 throughout the day, they will recreate the aspects of camp life. Special wreath laying ceremonies will take place at the Fort Meigs Monument and Pennsylvania Monument on Memorial Day. More information: fortmeigs.org

For more events, check the National Park Service events calendar at findyourpark.com, visit your state park website or search for museums and historic sites near you.

The Civil War Trust is the largest and most effective nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields, through its Campaign 1776 initiative the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. To date, the Trust has preserved 45,000 acres of battlefield land in 23 states.