

# Case Shot & Canister



A Publication of the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table  
Partners with Manor College and the Civil War Institute  
*Our 24<sup>th</sup> Year*

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*Our September Meeting*  
**Topic: "The Trial of Fitz John Porter"**  
**Presenter: Author Matt Borowick**

**Tuesday, September 20, 2016**  
**7:30 pm**  
**6:15 pm for dinner**  
**(all welcome – but reservation needed!)**  
**Radisson Hotel**  
**Route 1 @ Old Lincoln Highway**  
**Trevese, PA**

**Dinner Menu – Grilled Salmon with Mustard Dill Glaze.**  
**Served with salad, rolls/butter, iced tea, diet soda, and dessert.**  
**Substitute: Pasta (chef's selection).**

**Contact Rose Boyle at [roeb50@verizon.net](mailto:roeb50@verizon.net) or 215-638-4244 for  
dinner reservations by September 15. Dinner Price \$25.00**

**You are responsible for dinners not cancelled  
by Monday morning September 19.**

## *In This Issue*

- *Bernice Kaplan provides this month's Member Snapshot*
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- *Our Fall Semester is underway - check out our offerings*
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- *Paula Gidjunis goes "Off the Wall" after a trip to Quebec*
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- *Full details for our Fall day trip*



### *A Rising Career Left in Ruins*

"Scapegoat":  
when we  
hear the  
word we  
think of a  
quarterback  
who couldn't  
complete a  
crucial pass  
to win the



Super Bowl, a cleanup hitter who fans with two outs and the bases loaded in the seventh game of the World Series, or a seven foot center who misses a slam dunk and loses the NBA Championship.

As in sports, the Civil War had its share of heroes and its share of men to whom blame for defeat or disaster was attached. A Union defeat at Manassas in the summer of 1862 led to criticism and a court-martial for one of the rising stars of the Army of the Potomac's high command.

Following the defeat, questions were raised about who was responsible. Fingers quickly pointed toward MG Fitz John Porter, who did not perform as General Pope had expected him to because, as Porter's enemies claimed, Porter wanted to see Pope fail. Porter spent the next 24 years of his life trying to clear his name.

Join us this month to hear this unique and energetic presentation by author Matthew Borowick on an incredibly fascinating topic focusing on the events surrounding the Union defeat at Second Manassas and how rivalries in the Northern armies led to the downfall of one of the North's ablest generals.

Matt has had a lifelong interest in the Civil War, dating back to his days as a first-grader when he took his copy of "The Golden Book of the Civil War" to school daily. In 1992 he joined the Robert E. Lee CWRT of Central New Jersey, serving as its newsletter editor, advisory board member and webmaster. Later, he helped establish the Civil War Library and Research Center and was its first Executive Director. Matt currently is a columnist for the Civil War News, authoring "Round Table Review". In 2010, he authored and published *The Civil War Round Table Handbook - The Indispensable Guide to Running Yours Right*, which is available on Kindle at Amazon.com

Matt earned a B.A. in Economics and an MBA in Finance from Seton Hall University and is employed by Seton Hall as its Associate Vice President for Alumni and Government Relations. He and his wife Kathy, who has been to more Civil War battlefields than she cares to admit, live in Monmouth Junction, NJ with their four children.

Matt has spoken to us on several other occasions, most recently in 2007, and has reviewed our round table in one of his columns for Civil War News.





## From the President

### Our Annual Field Trip

On October 29<sup>th</sup> this round table takes its annual field trip. This year we are visiting museums in Philadelphia – The Mütter Museum, The Philadelphia History Museum, and the Union League. Special guided tours have been arranged at each museum, and it’s sure to be an exciting day. A full listing of the day’s details is in this newsletter on page 19. This is a great chance to see some wonderful exhibits. So don’t miss out. And this is a special opportunity for you to bring friends and family.

Each of these museums offers a different view of history and will offer new areas of interest. We are very fortunate to have such wonderful museums in our area, so take the opportunity. The price is special because if you visit these on your own parking and fees would be far beyond the October trip cost. So invite your friends and bring your family.

See you all at the meeting.

*Hugh Boyle  
President*



## Brain Teasers

### SEPTEMBER BRAIN TEASERS

*Each Presidential election we look at the percentage of the vote. Can you come up with the percentage of victory for these presidents?*

- 1 – James Buchanan in 1856
- 2 – Abraham Lincoln in 1860
- 3 – Abraham Lincoln in 1864
- 4 – U.S. Grant in 1868

(Answers in next month’s newsletter!)

### ANSWERS TO AUGUST’S BRAIN TEASERS

#### **“HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW OUR 17<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT?”**

- 1 – Where was Andrew Johnson born? – Raleigh, NC
- 2 – In which hotel did he live in Washington in April 1865? – The Kirkwood House
- 3 – What state was he from (represent politically)? – Tennessee
- 4 – What political offices did he hold? – Senator (1857-1862), Vice President (1865-1865), President (1865-1869), Senator (1875-1875)
- 5 – When did he die? – July 31, 1875



## Member News

Congratulations to our monthly raffle winners – Dr. Leslie Rose (dinner raffle), Jack Kauffman, Jack DeLong, John Hartner, Rich Jankowski, and Sheldon Liss.

While on vacation for a two-week stay in Mt. Gretna, PA, a Chautauqua Trail community, **Ann and Jack Kauffman** attended the August meeting of the Lancaster CWRT for a standing-room-only presentation by Garry Adelman on Civil War Photography.

**Ed Greenawald** spoke on "Continental Entourages: those other people belonging to & with the army" at the annual Moland House Revolutionary War Re-Enactment on August 20. **Ed** explains that military staff and support functions were not yet absorbed into the military infrastructure as they would be for the Civil War. And the 'camp followers' were primarily wives, mothers & children, and refugees from British-occupied territory - not the supposed horde of loose women.

Special congratulations to **Paula Gidjunis** who became a first-time grandmother - 5 weeks early - on September 2, to Gabriel Francis Gidjunis! Mom Rebecca, dad Joe, and grandmom **Paula** are all doing well. And of course, a picture is in order!



**Pete Romeika** is justly proud of his not-yet-8-year-old grandson Ajax, who finished 13th in his US Kids World golf tournament at Pinehurst, NC in early August.

**Bill Vosseler** presented a program on General George Thomas to the Old Baldy CWRT on September 8.

Civil War Medicine was the topic of **Herb Kaufman's** presentation and display at the GAR Museum on Sunday, September 11.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

OCTOBER 18, 2016

*Author Don Ernsberger  
"Meade's Breakthrough  
at Gettysburg"  
Book Signing after Program*

NOVEMBER 15, 2016

*Author Jeff Oppenheimer  
"That Nation May Live - An  
Afternoon with Lincoln's  
Stepmother"*

DECEMBER 13, 2016

*\*Note 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month\*  
Annual Holiday Dinner  
Austrian Village Restaurant  
Rockledge, PA*

JANUARY 19, 2017

*Round Table Discussion  
"Your Family Military History"*

FEBRUARY 21, 2017

*Author & Historian Steve Wright  
"The Story of Louis Weichmann  
and the Lincoln Conspiracy"*

MARCH 21, 2017

*Author & Historian Ken Milano  
"The Kensington Riots"*

APRIL 18, 2017

*Historian John Zinn  
"Civil War Baseball"*



## MEMBERS' SNAPSHOTS by Bernice Kaplan



I am honored to write about our valued member, Matt Bruce, who possesses extensive intellectual interests and is proficient in areas of both the arts and sciences (and loves his Pittsburgh sports teams as well). In other words, Matt is Del Val's own Renaissance Man.

Born in Western Pennsylvania, Matt spent approximately 22 years in and around Indiana, PA, where he pursued his college education at Carnegie Tech, Westminster College and Indiana University, majoring in math and physics. The next phase of Matt's life was the military which included a tour in the Korean War. During his stint with the army, Matt married his high school sweetheart. (Unfortunately, his wife passed away ten years ago). After leaving the military, he obtained his master's degree at Penn State and taught math and physics, as well as coached basketball and track, at the high school level.

I should add that track was Matt's favorite sport while he was in college, and he continued to run until he reached age 70. Matt left high school teaching to pursue his Ph.D. in statistics and research design at Penn State. From there, Dr. Matt Bruce cultivated the minds of students for 45 years at diverse institutions of learning, including Cornell, Temple and a summer at Tianjin University in China where he taught statistics and design of research projects on teaching. In addition, he worked on an educational development project for the U.S. Army in Europe, spreading all the way from England to Greece and found time to do some consulting for the 7th Army. Matt retired in 2001 and has managed to remain very busy ever since.

Two of Matt's great interests – the Civil War and Railroads – started when he was young. As is the case with many Del Val members, Gettysburg had a great influence on Matt when he visited there as a youngster. He has had the opportunity to visit a number of other Civil War sites, including Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Bull Run, and Antietam. During his visit to Petersburg, he walked the entire length of the battlefield.

His enthusiasm with railroads also developed during his childhood, having lived on a Western Pennsylvania hill close to the tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad. These interests inspired Matt to write his first highly praised course for the Del Val Civil War Institute – “The Role of the Railroads in the Civil War”.

Another of Matt's passions is the Navies, and he has recently completed the first full draft of a book entitled *SOME YARNS FROM THE NAVAL WAR: BLUE WATER AND BROWN WATER INCIDENTS FROM THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR*. Hopefully, it will be published shortly and be discussed in one of our future newsletters. Before Matt retired, he wrote two books, both of which are out of print, but one is currently in revision. He has also written a ton of articles, none of which are related to the Civil War. A couple of years ago, Matt proudly learned that his Great Grandfather, Alexander Hopkins, served in the 135th PVI in the Civil War.

As a result of the classes he has given at the Civil War Institute, his prolific and erudite articles in our newsletter, his work with the preservation committee in the cleanups in Gettysburg, his active participation during our meetings, Matt was the recipient of the President's Award in 2012. After receiving the award, Matt commented that "he didn't realize he was doing so much, because it was so much fun."

However, 2016, has been a heartbreaking year for Matt. He lost both of his daughters (his only children) within a period of several months. Also, he and his wife would have been married 64 years in August. I hope that his indomitable strength will help to sustain him during this difficult time, and that Matt can find comfort among his many friends at Del Val.

# Upcoming Events

**October 1-7, 2016 – Saturday to Friday – Starr Tours – Land of Lincoln: Springfield, IL and St. Louis, MO – with Jane Peters Estes –** 7 days/6 nights – Visit New Salem village where Lincoln resided prior to moving to Springfield, his Springfield home, grave and Presidential Museum; spend a day on the paddlewheel Spirit of Peoria with great food and entertainment; visit the recently-opened Missouri Civil War Museum and Anheuser-Busch brewery in St. Louis, opportunity to view the Arch and the courthouse made famous by the Dred Scott decision. Tour includes transportation, lodging, 6 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 1 dinner. \$1,249.95 pp/double. Additional info available on Starr's website (<http://www.starrtours.com/>) or call 800-782-7703. This will probably be the last opportunity for this tour.

**October 8-10, 2016 – Saturday to Monday - Annual Fall History Excursion of the Meade Society –** “The Shenandoah Valley” – Tour of Civil War and historic sites in the Shenandoah Valley, including V.M.I. Contact Jerry McCormick for info or to reserve [gedwinmc@msn.com](mailto:gedwinmc@msn.com)

**October 13-16, 2016 – Thursday to Sunday – Starr Tours – Civil War Trails: Rochester & Auburn, NY – with Jane Peters Estes –** 4 days/3 nights - Visit the homes of William Seward, Harriet Tubman, Susan B. Anthony, the Women's Rights Historical park, Mt. Hope Cemetery (final resting place of Frederick Douglas and 2,100 Civil War participants), Elmira (site of the Civil War prison), and a ride on the Genesee River aboard the Sam Patch, a packet-style boat. Tour includes transportation, lodging, 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 2 dinners. \$729.95 pp/double. Info available at <http://www.starrtours.com/> or call 800-782-7703.

**October 20, 2016 – Thursday – 6:30 pm – Documentary Film: Remarkable Tales of the Civil War –** Civic Hall, Camden County College, Blackwood, NJ – FREE. Features seldom-told and fascinating stories of the soldiers whose tales have been relegated to the dustbin of history. Heroes and heartache come alive in this documentary produced by the same team that collaborated on the 2015 documentary “Civil War Prisons – An American Tragedy”. Come hear the tale of an escaped prisoner, a runaway slave, an unlikely railroad tragedy, and a disaster at sea. Written and produced by Joseph F. Wilson. Music by Mike Wilson. Edited by Rich Mendoza. Narrated by Scott R. Pollak. Documentary runs for 53 minutes.

**October 21, 2016 – Friday – Twelfth Annual Gravediggers Ball –** Crystal Tea Room, Wanamakers – To benefit the Friends of Laurel Hill Cemetery Historic Preservation Efforts. This black-tie or costumed event will include 1.5 hours open bar cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, an eclectic station-style dinner reception with wine; dancing and musical entertainment by a dynamic 11-piece dance band, and complimentary onsite parking. All proceeds go towards the continued restoration and preservation of historic Laurel Hill Cemetery. Tickets are \$200 donation per person. . **Sign up for the 'General Meade' Table** and your seat is discounted! \$180 per person! ALL for a GREAT cause! A portion of all ticket sales is tax-deductible. Contact Laurel Hill Cemetery and tell them you want to join 'General Meade'! For info call 215.228.8200, or visit [theundergroundmuseum.org](http://theundergroundmuseum.org)

**October 22, 2016 – Saturday – 9:00 am-4:00 pm – Civil War Symposium hosted by Old Baldy CWRT –** Civic Hall at Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ. Sessions on Civil War Ballooning, New Jersey's role in supporting the War, a Naval program, Civil War exhibits, and a musical performance. Co-sponsored with The GAR Civil War Museum and Library. For more information, please see <http://www.oldbaldycwrt.org/obwp/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Symposium-Flyer.pdf>

**October 29, 2016 – Saturday – 8:30 am (promptly) to 5:30 pm (approx.) – Del Val Day Trip to Three Historic Philadelphia Museums –** Bus leaves from and will return to Whitman Square Shopping Center, Route 1, Roosevelt Blvd. All fees, bus, tips included. Cost \$60 pp. Lunch on your own at Historic Reading Terminal area. Guided tours of Union League, Mütter Museum, and Philadelphia History Museum. **See page 19** for full details and to reserve your seat on the bus.

**October 29, 2016 – Saturday – 6:00-10:00 pm – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala of the General Meade Society (1996 – 2016) –** Cannstatter Volksfest Verein, 9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia. COST- \$30.00 per person, \$55.00 per couple. Menu includes: roast beef sandwiches, baked ziti, German potato salad, garden salad with dressings, etc. and beverages. Special recognition, awards, Testimonials, prizes! Feel free to bring photos and memorabilia! To reserve, contact Jerry McCormick [gedwinmc@msn.com](mailto:gedwinmc@msn.com) or (215) 848-7753. Make checks payable to the 'Gen. Meade Society' send to: P.O. Box 45556, Phila., PA 19149. Reservations should be made by Oct. 24th.

**November 10, 2016 – Thursday – 10:00 am – US Marine Corps Birthday Observance –** At Laurel Hill Cemetery at grave of General Jacob Zeilin, 7<sup>th</sup> Commandant. A Veterans' Day Tour follows "Servicemen Killed in Action".

**November 19, 2016 – Saturday – starts 10:00 am – Remembrance Day in Gettysburg –** General Meade & his Generals and the veterans of the Battle of Gettysburg Honor/Dedication Ceremonies during the Remembrance Day Observance. Honoring all commanders and veterans of the Battle. Please meet at the Regulars' Monument along Hancock Ave. at 10:00am; then proceed to the Meade Equestrian Monument at 10:30am for traditional honor ceremonies and wreath layings. Contact Jerry McCormick at [\(215\) 848-7753](tel:2158487753) or [gedwinmc@msn.com](mailto:gedwinmc@msn.com) for info.

**December 9-10, 2016 – Friday & Saturday – Starr Tours – Gettysburg – with Jane Peters Estes – ONE DATE ONLY -** Includes two meals (breakfast, dinner), accommodations, deluxe motor coach transportation. Sightseeing includes "A Christmas Carol" at the Majestic Theater, Tuba Carol Fest, Eisenhower Farm Christmas, Jennie Wade House, Shriver House Civil War Christmas, Farnsworth House dinner and Gettysburg Outlet Shoppes. This is a great weekend getaway and a wonderful time of the year to spend in Gettysburg! \$319.95 pp/double.

**December 31, 2016 – Saturday – 11:30 am – Annual General Meade Birthday Celebration –** Laurel Hill Cemetery, 3822 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia – Parade and ceremony to mark the anniversary of his birth will begin at 12 noon at General Meade's gravesite. All are asked to gather at the Gatehouse at 11:30AM. A champagne toast and reception will follow the program. A tour of the historic cemetery will be offered (weather permitting). This year marks the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Meade birthday celebration by the General Meade Society. For directions, call: 215-228-8200 Laurel Hill Cemetery. For info contact Dr. Andy Waskie at 215-204-5452.



## **PRESERVATION NOTES**

*By Paula Gidjunis,  
Preservation Committee Chair*

### **GETTYSBURG CLEANUP**

Our Adopt a Position cleanup in Gettysburg will be held on Saturday, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>.

We meet at 10:00 on East Cemetery Hill at the 27<sup>th</sup> and 73<sup>rd</sup> Pa regiments on Baltimore Street. We work in the morning, and then go to lunch. After lunch we plan on heading out to Hanover to visit the old electric map that once was displayed in the Old Gettysburg Visitors Center. If you want to have a fun filled day and get an opportunity to help spruce up the park at the same time, come join us on November 5<sup>th</sup>. The fee for the electric map is \$8.

A signup sheet will be passed around at the next meeting. If you are interested in this tour, when the sign-up sheet comes around, please indicate that.

### **NEW VISITORS CENTER/MUSEUM TO BE BUILT AT FORT FISHER SITE**

North Carolina State funding has been approved to create a new visitors center and Civil War museum at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site, outside Wilmington. Several groups were involved: The North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and The Friends of Fort Fisher made the announcement.

Over 800,000 people visited the Fort Fisher State Historic Site in the last year, which makes it the most visited state historic site in North Carolina.

### **CIVIL WAR TRUST APPS REVISITED**

If you have a smart phone or tablet, check out the increase battlefield apps from the Civil War Trust. These free apps are available for iPhones, androids, and ipads. There are now 10 different battlefield apps available. These apps provide battle overviews, tours and resources, along with

maps that work with your devices' GPS function. There are also videos and quizzes to test your knowledge on a particular campaign.

<http://www.civilwar.org/battleapps/>

## WWII WEEKEND AT EISENHOWER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

From the Eisenhower National Historic Site news release: On September 17 and 18, the National Park Service will sponsor a World War II living history weekend at the Eisenhower National Historic Site. See authentic recreations of Allied and German army camps, complete with original World War II vehicles. Several hundred living history enthusiasts from over 40 organizations will portray military personnel from the European Theater in 1944.

<https://www.nps.gov/eise/index.htm>



## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

*Member contributions to this newsletter are always welcome and encouraged.*

*Please submit book reviews, short articles, informative pieces, newsy items and opinion pieces to the Editor.*

*Short articles of 600-800 words are especially desired.*

*First-time authors encouraged!!!*

*Please send as a Word document to [Pabc0808@aol.com](mailto:Pabc0808@aol.com)*

*Thank you!*

## Tackling the Lost Cause

By Larry Vogel

By the time you read this, Labor Day will have passed, schools will be back in session, and hopefully the hot weather will have broken, and we will be looking forward to a crisp fall with football and hockey season (with deference to the Caldwells) to enjoy.

But as I type, we are still in the midst of a long hot August. But that did not keep a nice crowd of 35 or so from attending the monthly meeting of the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table.

The August meeting featured author Ed Bonekemper, who spoke about his most recent book, *The Myth of the Lost Cause*.

First let me warn you, if you really want to read a first rate review of the aforementioned book, stop reading now and go get last month's issue of this newsletter, and read the Book Review by Matt Bruce. If you are still reading, I will attempt to give my interpretation of Mr. Bonekemper's talk.



*Ed Bonekemper addresses the summertime crowd*

Unlike most of the speakers before this Round Table, Mr. Bonekemper did not need or use the assistance of a power point presentation. He got his points across with just his voice. If he was using notes I could not tell, I just believe that

Mr. Bonekemper was well prepared and knew his subject, which of course was his own book, like the back of his hand.



*Members listening attentively*

The first thing Mr. Bonekemper did was list the basic tenets of the myth of the Lost Cause, chief among them was that slavery was not cruel but a benevolent institution that allowed the master and the slave to benefit from it. The myth also states that slavery was going to go away on its own, so the real reason that the South seceded, was to protect "State's Rights". The South could not really win the war even though it had the best of generals, Robert E. Lee, while the North had butchers, like General Grant, waging total war on the civilians, so continues the myth.

Mr. Bonekemper then spent the rest of the evening debunking point by point the tenets of the myth. It is fairly obvious to us now, 150 years later that slavery was anything but benevolent, but we were reminded why it was not. Not only did slaves generally perform their work through force, violence and intimidation, but they were legally not allowed to have families, and if they did have family units, they could be sold without thought of keeping them together.

The South really had no intention of letting slavery end any time soon as the myth asserts. The southern government was looking towards

expanding the Confederacy through Cuba and Mexico, not to mention the unsettled western continent of America. Mr. Bonekemper used statistics from the 1860 census to prove the value of the slaves not only to the "select few families" that owned them, but also to the whole of the Confederacy, and northern interests as well.

He also used statements by the Confederate politicians in the years of 1861 and 1862 to prove that the leadership really believed that the war was being waged to protect slavery, not what was said after the war as an afterthought, thus creating the myth.

We were also treated to the author's views on General Robert E. Lee. Suffice it to say that Mr. Bonekemper is not the general's best fan.



*After accepting the traditional "highly coveted esteemed drinking vessel" from DelVal president Hugh Boyle*

I personally really enjoyed the talk, and to paraphrase Matt Bruce's conclusion in last month's book review, even if you disagreed with the talk, you surely learned something from it.

[Photos courtesy of Bernice Kaplan]



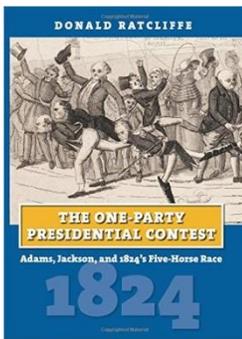
# The Book Nook



By Hugh Boyle, Book Editor

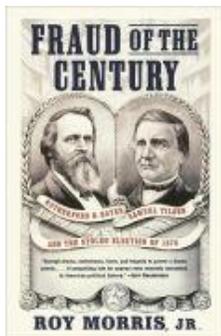
## Disputed Presidential Elections

At our July meeting we discussed the disputed election of 1876 when Hayes won over Tilden, although Tilden had won the popular vote. Here is a list of books about the elections where the loser in the popular vote won the White House.



1824 – Andrew Jackson won the popular vote but John Quincy Adams became President.

*The One-Party Presidential Contest* by Donald Ratcliffe

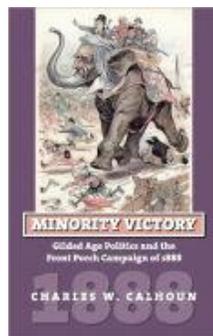


1876 – William Tilden won the popular vote but lost the presidency to Rutherford B. Hayes

*Fraud of the Century* by Roy Jr. Morris

1888 – Grover Cleveland won the popular vote but lost to Benjamin Harrison.

*Minority Victory: Gilded Age Politics and the Front Porch Campaign of 1888* by Charles W. Calhoun



2000 – Al Gore won the popular vote but George W. Bush won the White House.

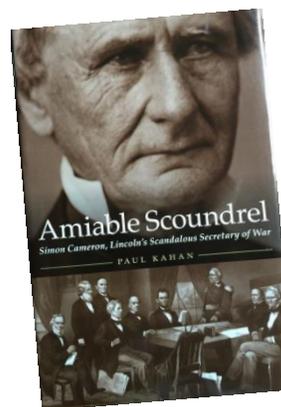
*The Disputed Presidential Election of 2000* by E. D. Dover

## Did You Know

... that in addition to being Civil War Generals, Presidents Grant, McKinley, Hayes, and Garfield were all members of the GAR??

*Amiable Scoundrel – Simon Cameron, Lincoln's Scandalous Secretary of War*  
By Paul Kahan

Reviewed by Walt Lafty, Jr.



As I read and began to understand Simon Cameron as a man and as a politician, it became clear to me that author Paul Kahan could not have chosen a better title than “*Amiable Scoundrel*” to describe this powerful Pennsylvanian. To break down the title a little bit, we get to know a man who

was friendly, loyal to friends, generally agreeable, and a sociable person. Yet, he could also be disreputable, dishonest, and a shrewd manipulator. However, with those blended personalities, Simon Cameron was great as a politician who applied those tools at a time in history when most

politicians, including President Lincoln, used similar tactics to win elections and advance their careers.

The book begins with Cameron's family background and early life then works through his life to show him as undisputed political boss of Pennsylvania, Lincoln's Secretary of War, Senator, chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and a founder of the Republican Party. It includes political and business dealings and even a sex scandal in his later years, at about age 80.

The author covers Cameron's opposition to slavery and his support for the enlistment of African Americans into the U.S. Army as well as equal constitutional rights for freed slaves. It also details him as a key figure in designing and implementing the Union's military strategy during the Civil War's crucial first year. To that end, Chapter 6 "*Then Profit Shall Accrue*", covers just how ill prepared the North was to meet the burden of raising an army then providing clothing, arms, food, munitions, transportation, and all of the logistics which were not in place. The author does a great job of showing how crucial the first year of war was and how Mr. Cameron, regardless of how it was done, got the job done. When Simon Cameron left the War Department after one year, Mr. Kahan points out that the War Department "*and the army were better organized and provisioned than a year before*".

**Published in July 2016 by Potomac Books, Inc., *Amiable Scoundrel* is 384 pages hardcover.** For those who missed Paul Kahan's presentation on his book at the G.A.R. Museum and Library in August, he will be presenting at the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable at 7:15 PM on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at Camden County College in the Connector Building, Room 101. For more information visit their website at: <http://www.oldbaldycwrt.org/>



## *Civil War - The Rest of the Story*

**Joseph Pierce**

*by Larry Vogel*

When Corporal Joseph Pierce died on January 3, 1916 at the age of 73, his obituary in the local newspaper did not mention his service during the Civil War. It only said that he "was well known and liked." But his military records indicate that Joseph Pierce enlisted in New Britain, Connecticut on July 26, 1862 as a member of the 14<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Volunteer Infantry. Less than a month later on August 23, 1862, his regiment was mustered into the Second Brigade, Third Division, Second Army Corps, Army of the Potomac.

Its first battle on September 17, 1862 was the Battle of Antietam, then it was onward to Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville in the spring of 1863 and then on to the Battle of Gettysburg. On September 1, 1863 Private Joseph Pierce was promoted to the rank of corporal.

Pierce and the 14th Connecticut fought through other major engagements in the eastern theater of war until General Robert E. Lee's surrender in April 1865. In May 1865, he and the regiment marched in the Grand Review of the Armies in Washington, D.C. The regiment was mustered out of the Army and then upon arriving back to the state capital of Hartford, the 14th Connecticut was mustered out of state service.

At the time Corporal Joseph Pierce was thought to be "the only Chinaman in the Army of the Potomac (*not my words*). He was brought to the United States from China by his "adoptive father", Connecticut



ship Captain Amos Peck. His birth name is unknown, and his chosen name was in honor of then-President Franklin Pierce.



Joseph is believed to have achieved the highest rank of any Chinese American to serve in the Union Army. After the war he married an American woman named Martha Morgan and settled in Meriden, Connecticut where they raised a family and he

worked as a silver engraver.

**And now you know the rest of the story!!**



## Civil War Institute

Our updated Civil War Institute at Manor College class format allows a greater variety of choices for students who find it difficult to attend 3-week or 6-week courses. Semesters now include multiple-week courses, 2-week courses and 1-night seminars. Classes may be taken as part of the certificate program or individually. Completion of your choice of four core courses, and any four elective courses is required to receive the certificate. Non-core, elective courses require a minimum of 6 credit hours. Any combination of 2-night and 1-night programs may fulfill that requirement.

Call (215) 884-2218 to register or for an application for the certificate program, or online [www.manor.edu/cont-ed/civil-war/courses.php](http://www.manor.edu/cont-ed/civil-war/courses.php)  
**Class hours are 6:30 till 8:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.** Manor College is located at 700 Fox Chase Road in Jenkintown, PA.

**\* Indicates Core Course**

**\*\* Indicates Elective Course/Seminar**

**\*Civil War 101 (formerly called the Overview Series) – 6 nights (12 hrs) – A year-by-year overview of the war, climaxed by a panel discussion that tackles the students' questions. Thursdays, September 15 through October 20  
Fee: \$150**

**Instructors: DVCWRT members**

**\*\* The "Fire Eaters" – 1 night (2 hrs) – NEW – Discussion of the extremist politicians who led the charge for Southern secession, predicting that the North was too timid to resist.**

**Wednesday, October 26**

**Fee: \$29**

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman**

**\*\*Bleeding Kansas – 2 nights (4 hrs) – NEW – Kansas Territory provided a boilerplate for events that would envelop the entire country. Local events here in the 1850s would lead to much bloodier things to come.**

**Thursdays, November 10 and 17**

**Fee: \$55**

**Instructor: Hugh Boyle**

**\*\*Reconstruction – 4 nights (8 hrs) – NEW – Although hostilities ended in 1865, repercussions would last beyond the soldiers return home. This class which spans the period 1865-1880 looks at the politics and social ramifications as the country was rebuilt.**

**Mondays, November 21, 28; December 5, 12**

**Fee: \$105**

**Instructors: Hugh Boyle & Herb Kaufman**

**\*\* The Causes of the Civil War – NEW – 1 night (2 hrs) – An overview of the factors – political and social – that led to America being at war with itself.**

**Wednesday, November 30**

**Fee: \$29**

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman**



# “The U.S.S. Red Rover”

by Walt Lafty

*This article is Part 2 of three interrelated stories which cover 1) the deadliest single shot in the War involving the gunboat U.S.S. Mound City; 2) the hospital ship U.S.S. Red Rover sent to her aid; and 3) the Catholic Nuns who later served on the Red Rover and who would be the first nurses in U.S. Naval history to serve on a hospital ship.*

Last month’s article about the attack and boiler explosion on the U.S.S. *Mound City* ended with the U.S.S. *Red Rover* being dispatched to her aid. *Red Rover* was originally a 786 ton commercial side-wheel river steamer built at Cape Girardeau, Missouri in 1859. Purchased in New Orleans by the Confederate States of America on November 7, 1861, she became the C.S.S. *Red Rover*, an accommodations ship for the men of the Confederate States Floating Battery *New Orleans*.



*U.S.S. Red Rover at Mound City, Illinois c 1864*

It was at Island Number 10 where the C.S.S. *Red Rover* was put out of action in the bombardment and capture on April 7<sup>th</sup> 1862 by U.S.S. *Mound City*. After its capture, the *Red Rover* was repaired by Commander Augustus Kilty and the engineers of the *Mound City* to enable travel up to St. Louis, Missouri where she was re-fitted and re-designated as the navy’s first hospital ship, the U.S.S. *Red Rover*. During that process, the Western Sanitary Commission advised and contributed \$3,200 toward outfitting the new hospital ship. The U.S. Navy

Division of Naval History records show that the new ship was equipped with “bathrooms, laundry, elevator for the sick from the lower to the upper deck, amputating rooms, nine different water closets, gauze blinds to the windows to keep the cinders and smoke from annoying the sick, two separate kitchens for the sick and well, a regular corps of nurses, and two water closets on every deck.” In addition, the ship had an ice box that could hold 300 tons of ice. The ship also had enough stores for the crew for three months and enough medical supplies to aid approximately 200 injured or sick men for up to three months. It was the best in medical advances of its time and had, according to the Navy records, “every requisite for the purpose she was intended”.

U.S.S. *Red Rover* was placed in service June 10<sup>th</sup> 1862 with Captain McDaniel of the Army's Gunboat Service in command.

George H. Bixby (pictured at right) became Surgeon in Charge and remained so on that ship through the war. On her second day of service on June 11<sup>th</sup> 1862, *Red Rover* received her first patient who was Seaman David Sans, a cholera victim from the gunboat *Benton*. Within a few days, she would receive another 55 patients.



The ship was initially assigned to the Western Flotilla above Vicksburg, then transferred to the US Navy September 30<sup>th</sup> 1862 with Acting Master William R. Wells USN in command. During January 1863 U.S.S. *Red Rover* served with the White River expedition. During the Vicksburg campaign from February to July 1863, she cared for the sick and wounded of that campaign. *Red Rover* continued her service along the river, taking on sick and wounded and delivering medicine and supplies, until the fall of 1864. The ship arrived back at Mound City, Illinois on December 11<sup>th</sup> 1864 and remained

there until decommissioned on November 17<sup>th</sup> 1865.

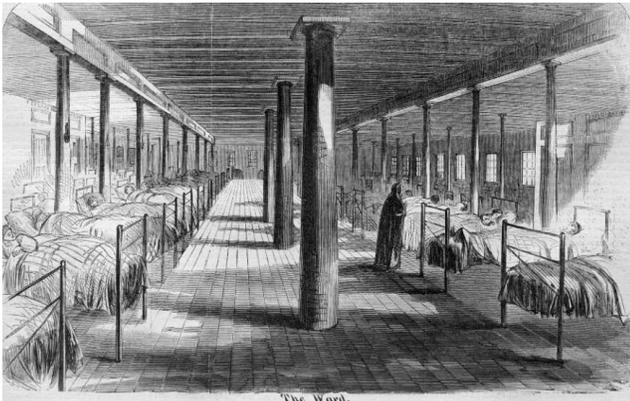


Illustration in Harper's Weekly May 9, 1863. A view of a hospital ward on U.S.S. Red Rover

During her service, *Red Rover* admitted 2500 patients. She did so with an average compliment of 12 officers and 35 men as well as a medical staff of about 30. Of the medical staff of 30, four of this number were Sisters of the Order of the Holy Cross as well as female negro nurses under the care of those Catholic Nuns.



Today, the ship is remembered as one of four Branch Medical Clinics that are part of the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, located at Great Lakes, Illinois. The U.S.S. *Red Rover* Clinic processes 40,000 enlisted recruits annually.

[Editor's Note – This article continues next month with part 3 – “The Catholic Nuns of the Hospital Ship U.S.S. *Red Rover*”.]

## OFF THE WALL

*Another Entry From the  
"We Can Find a Civil War Connection in  
Just About Anything"  
School of Thought*

*A Civil War Connection - in Quebec???*  
By Paula Gidjunis

John Shivo and I took a recent trip to the Canadian Province of Quebec. We visited Montreal and Quebec City. While we thoroughly enjoyed our entire visit, Quebec City was definitely our favorite. With its Old World charm, narrow streets, unique shops, and amazing food served in the relaxed European way, you think you have crossed the ocean and landed in Paris. Always looking for that Civil War connection, we had no idea we would find one on our last day in the city.

The Musee du Fort has a 400-square foot model of historic Quebec and contains a light and sound show. Reminiscent of the old Gettysburg Electric Map, it did a nice job describing the many sieges of Quebec. Add a slide show behind the model and a complete picture of Quebec's history unfolds. What surprised us was the Musee du Fort was the brainchild of a French Canadian who visited Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1965, during the 100-year anniversary of the Civil War. Chattanooga had an electric map similar to the old one in Gettysburg, now in Hanover (see story in Preservation News in the August issue of *Case Shot & Canister*). It inspired him to return to Quebec City and build his own map. We found this show interesting and it explained the founding of Quebec City and its role in Canadian history better than other historical sites we visited.  
<http://www.museedufort.com/en/>



# ***Gettysburg: The Seminary Cupola – A Photographic Essay***

*Text and photos by Matt Bruce*

In the November 2013 issue of *Case Shot and Canister* Paula Gidjunis, in her report from the Preservation Committee on the fall cleanup day, described the visits by several of the members to three museums in the Gettysburg area. While all of these were interesting, even inspirational, one of them supplied particular background toward a grasp of how the battle took form. [Two of them were primarily concerned with hospital services, and the third with artifacts from African Americans in the Gettysburg area.] The Seminary Ridge Museum, housed in a building – the “Old Dorm” – at the Lutheran Seminary, which dates back to prior to the war, was used during and following the battle as a hospital, which theme is admirably displayed as exemplified by the photo contained in Paula’s report. Beside this, however, the cupola is almost a museum in itself.

In the photo, below, the building is shown, with the cupola clearly in evidence. This view is looking southeast. In the words of the real estate world, “Location is everything” [well almost – height has something to do with it also here].



The building stands at the crest of Seminary Ridge, west of the town, with the additional height of the cupola clearly shown. With its altitude, the cupola provided a reasonably clear view in all directions. The view today is somewhat more obstructed than it was at the time of the battle by virtue of buildings and additional growth. Whoever occupied it gained a distinct advantage in understanding the “lay of the land,” as illustrated by Gen. John Buford’s cavalry late on the 30<sup>th</sup> and early on the 1<sup>st</sup>, being the lead Federal unit at Gettysburg, ahead of Reynolds’ First Corps. [One of a series of ten paintings by Dale Gallon, artist in residence in Gettysburg, commissioned by the museum, shows Buford briefing Reynolds in front (the side opposite that shown in this photo) of the building early on July 1<sup>st</sup>. What Buford was reporting to Reynolds was almost certain to have included his observations from the cupola. Note, also, that Reynolds was killed, shot from his horse, at approximately 10:45 AM on the 1<sup>st</sup>, altering the Union command structure.

Climbing to the cupola provides a look at the timber framing that anchors the cupola to the building structure and at the structure of the building itself. Much of the framing visible is of the original building, and repairs and replacements are dated so that you get an idea of the structural history of the building.

To give you an idea of what Buford may have seen, here are photos taken from the cupola, starting with the view looking west and moving counter-clockwise to the south, east, north, and back to west. [Note: Directions assigned to pictures are approximate, limited by the physical structure and obstructions. But you do see, roughly, what the observers during the battle saw, modified by growth of flora and additions and changes to structures.] Descriptions of the views are posted below the photos.



Looking West toward South Mountain, where A. P. Hill's Corps assembled upon arrival and (closer) where Reynolds' 1<sup>st</sup> Corps moved into the Union line and where Reynolds was killed on the morning of July 1<sup>st</sup>. (Building at lower left is modern seminary building.)



Looking Southwest toward Fairfield gap, in the distance, where much of Lee's force will make their retreat toward Waynesboro and Hagerstown.



Looking South toward Big Roundtop where the Union left anchored and, to the right, Seminary Ridge where Lee's right under Longstreet was arrayed (masked by the building at the right, and further away).



Looking Southeast toward Culp's Hill (left center) and Cemetery Ridge (to the right) where the Union line will form, and which was the object of the Pickett/Pettigrew/Trimble charge on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Looking East toward the town and, further away to the left, the East Cavalry Field, where the Confederates attempted to assault the Union right late on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and into the 3<sup>rd</sup> in preparation for the Pickett/ Pettigrew/Trimble charge on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Looking Northeast toward Gettysburg College (Pennsylvania College in 1863). Late in the afternoon of the 1<sup>st</sup>, Ewell's troops under Hays and Avery attacked Union troops at the northeast edge of the town.



Looking North toward Oak Hill (masked by the tall tree). Note the white barn, lower left, the only remaining contemporary building of the McPherson farm. Fight for McPherson Ridge occurred late morning of the 1<sup>st</sup>.



Looking Northwest toward Chambersburg Pike, where Hill's two divisions advanced on July 1<sup>st</sup>.



# A PERSONAL CIVIL WAR

## **The Civil War in the Golden State**

*by Bernice Kaplan*

In late 2014 my brother Gary who lives in California and has a great interest in the Civil War sent me information regarding a then-upcoming exhibit – EMPIRE AND LIBERTY: THE CIVIL WAR AND THE WEST – which was scheduled to open at the magnificent Autry National Center of the American West in Griffith Park in Los Angeles, and billed as the first significant museum exhibition to interpret the origins and legacies of the American Civil War from the viewpoint of Westward expansion. Originally known as the Gene Autry Museum of Western Heritage, “the Autry,” as it is now commonly referred to, was co-founded by the great Gene Autry, “America’s favorite singing cowboy” and his banker wife Jackie along with cowboy star Monte Hale and his wife Joanne, also an astute businesswoman. With the opening of the museum in 1988, Gene Autry fulfilled his dream “to build a museum which would exhibit and interpret the heritage of the West and show how it influenced America and the world.”



[www.theautry.org](http://www.theautry.org)

Luckily I had the opportunity to visit with my brother and his family in June 2015, and so was able to visit this unique exhibit.

The exhibition began with the historical phenomenon of westward expansion and how it shaped struggles over slavery, and then proceeded to evaluate the consequences of the war and the impact it had on Westerners of all types. The concluding portion of the exhibit moved into the decades of Reconstruction following the Civil War.

During these decades, ideas about “empire and liberty” provoked dissension and devastating violence as people confronted the options that westward expansion and war imposed on them.

The Autry National Center’s goal in creating this exhibit was “to tell a surprising history – one that asks us to think differently about the histories of westward expansion, slavery, and the Civil War and to see these histories as interconnected and not separate.” Equally important, the exhibit featured how Western locales and people broadened and intensified the national story. We saw well-known persons such as John Fremont and Ulysses S. Grant in the exhibit; however, the exhibit also strove to show all types of individuals who took part in contests over the definition of freedom in the West and who counted as American citizens. “Unlike other histories and exhibitions, it does not treat as separate the experiences of enslaved and free African Americans, Native peoples fighting for self-determination, westerners of Spanish and Mexican descent, Union and Confederate troops, men and women, and diverse westward-moving settlers. It is a show deeply in tune with the Autry’s mission to showcase the convergence and interconnected histories of the diverse communities that have made the West their home”. The exhibit attempted to illustrate that one cannot understand the Civil War without confronting the importance of the West, and that one is unable to comprehend the modern West without considering the origins and consequences of the Civil War.

The exhibit offered more than 200 significant artifacts, including Texas slave sale documents, Buffalo Soldiers flag, battle flag carried by the soldiers of the California Hundred, and the bowie knife given to Cherokee General Stand Watie by the Confederacy.

Available at the Autry Store were two new publications related to the exhibition. Virginia Scharff, distinguished writer and history professor from my alma mater, the University of New Mexico, and co-curator of the Autry exhibition, has edited *Empire and Liberty: The Civil War and the West*, (University of California, 2015). Professor

Scharff and the contributors to this volume offer 11 essays covering the regions west of the Mississippi during the Civil War, the antebellum period, Reconstruction and beyond. Several essays address the violence perpetrated by whites against Native Americans during the Civil War.

The other new publication is *Civil War Wests: Testing the Limits of the United States*, edited by Adam Arenson and Andrew R. Graybill (University of California Press, 2015). Eminent historians such as William Deverell, Steven Hahn, Stephen Kantrowitz, Martha Sandweiss, and Virginia Scharff offer original essays on lives, choices and legacies in the American West, examining the consequences for American Indian nations, the connection between Reconstruction and suffrage movements, and cross-border relationships with Mexico and Canada.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the Autry’s Southwest Museum of the American Indian. The Southwest Museum is one of the most remarkable of its kind in the US, second only to the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian. The 238,000 piece collection includes baskets, ceramic items, textiles and weavings, and more than 1,100 pieces of jewelry, representing work by indigenous peoples from Alaska to South America, with an emphasis on cultures of California and the Southwestern United States.

We also visited another Civil War exhibition being held at the Pasadena Museum of History. The exhibit WHEN JOHNNY CAME MARCHING WEST: HOW THE CIVIL WAR SHAPED PASADENA examined the contributions of men and materials that came from the area to both sides of the war effort as well as the deep influence Civil War veterans had on the growth of Pasadena and neighboring communities as they migrated west looking for a climate to improve their health and opportunities to become wealthy. There are more than 700 veterans buried at Pasadena’s Mountain View Cemetery – a testament to the profound ties between this region of California and the Civil War.



**THE GREAT  
DELAWARE VALLEY CWRT  
BOOK SALE**

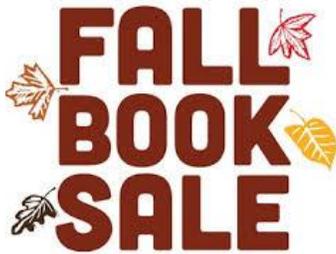
**ADVANCE NOTICE!!  
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**Our OCTOBER 18, 2016 meeting**

**JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

The Preservation Committee is pleased to announce that we will hold a very special Book Sale at our October meeting.

This will not be an ordinary book sale. We have recently received a fantastic donation of over 100 new hardback books.



There are titles in almost every subject including Lincoln, biographies, Atlanta, Gettysburg, and many general topics and histories.

*All the books are in first class, new condition!*

They are perfect for your library or for gifts. Each book is a special value and priced well below the regular price that you would find on Amazon, Barnes & Noble or other book sellers. There are many different topics represented, and we are sure that you will find many books to be of interest and super value!

Remember, all the books we are offering at our sale have been donated! Every dollar of your purchases is used directly in our preservation efforts to assure that our American history is preserved for all future generations.

**PHILADELPHIA HISTORY TRIP**

*By Herb Kaufman*



On October 29, 2016 we are sponsoring a super trip to three outstanding Philadelphia history locations. All are invited for this super experience. Bring your friends, kids or grandchildren for a onetime special experience.

The cost is only \$60.00 pp. This is actually less than you would pay singly just for parking and admissions, and you don't have to fight the city traffic.

**THE UNION LEAGUE COLLECTIONS:** Mr. Jim Mundy will lead a tour of the fabulous collection of the Union League. You will have the opportunity that few receive to see the sculpture, paintings and other historic artifacts of the Union League collection.

**THE MÜTTER MUSEUM:** Dr. Robert Hicks will next give us a private tour of the singular collection of the historic Mütter Museum. Not only will you see the marvelous Civil War exhibit, but Dr. Hicks will provide those insights into the history of the collection that few have the opportunity to hear.

**THE PHILADELPHIA HISTORY MUSEUM:** A Historian with the Philadelphia History Museum will then give us a fascinating tour of the great collection of this nationally known museum.

Lunch will be on your own at the Reading Terminal Market.

Please send your payment payable to "Delaware Valley CWRT" to:

Herb Kaufman, Treasurer  
2601 Bonnie Lane  
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*When Johnny Came Marching West  
How the Civil War Shaped Pasadena  
Photos by Bernice Kaplan*

Delaware Valley  
Civil War Round Table  
3201 Longshore Avenue  
Philadelphia PA 19149-2025

