

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

January 14, 2016 The One Hundred and Fifty First Year of the Civil War

"Your Family Military History"



Jima] appearance at the Union League, the Meade 200th dinner, Wreaths across America and the Meade 200th Birthday celebration at Laurel Hill.

Don Wiles continues to produce a great document each month that attracts members and brings the Round Table compliments. In the past few issues, members have contributed articles about their interesting adventures. More folks should

write up what they have been doing so we can all benefit.

We are still looking to recruit a member to assist Don and learn how he does his magic. **Mike Cavanaugh** wrote several articles on the history of our Round Table that allowed more recent members to learn about the origins of the group. We had two articles written about our Round Table in the Civil War News. **Hal Jespersen** does a superb job keeping our website current and informative. If there is something else you believe would make it better, let us know.

Thanks to **Debbie Holdsworth**, we were again able to place a wreath at the grave of Winfield Scott Hancock at the **Memorial Day event**. Our members have been working on the tomb since before the Round Table was formed. We hope to see more members at the event this year on May 28th.

Members, including **Mike Cavanaugh**, made a successful trip to **Woodland Cemetery** with an excellent presentation by **Jim Mundy**. The Round Table later made a donation to the cemetery to preserve Civil War headstones. **Frank Barletta** is working to raise additional funds for this project. A return trip for those unable to join us in June is being planned this year as well as a venture to **Green Wood Cemetery** in Brooklyn.

We have re-started our pre-meeting dinner at the Lamp Post Diner each month, usually with the presenter. Feel free to come by just after 5:30 one month for interesting conversation and a fine meal.

We have introduced our clothing line and have made it available on our website. We have also designed a keepsake glass along with the certificate to share with our presenters. Our monthly book raffle continues to generate

Join us at **7:15 PM** on **Thursday, January 14**, at **Camden County College** in the **Connector Building, Room 101**. This month's topic is **"Your Family Military History"**

A Round Table presentation by Old Baldy members on the history of their family's military members... no matter of what particular time of our country's history... from the French and Indian war to the now Middle East conflicts. Do to the preliminary response by members wishing to share with us their military history of their family members that we may need to have several of this kind of presentation over the coming year.

State of Our Round Table...

Thanks to all of **our members**, the **Old Baldy CWRT** is flourishing in South Jersey. We have added new members who assist us with our mission. We want to provide you with a picture of where we have been and where we are going. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you this year to do more to spread the Old Baldy message. Please enjoy a review of what our fellow members have accomplished to bring us to this point in our history.

Old Baldy CWRT was represented at several events this year including the **Neshaminy Weekend**, the **New Jersey 150th Civil War concert**, **Manor Day**, the **Lincoln Symposium**, the **Woody Williams [MoH recipient from Iwo**

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income even though **Geri Hughes** wins about 75% of the months. The money has been donated to aid special Civil War causes.

We have had a variety of good programs this year and the future ones sound interesting. After working with **Harry Jenkins** and **Herb Kaufman** and learning the ropes, **Dave Gilson** has taken over our monthly programming and is doing a fine job. The mix of programs and discussions allows for a variety of topics to be reviewed. If there is a topic or presenter you believe would be good for us to hear please share it with Dave. Be sure to invite friends and family to our special **Iwo Jima presentation** on February 11th.

Priscilla Gabosch and **Arlene Schnaare** came to the Board asking about a roster to help identify and get to know members. They ended up forming the Membership Team with **Frank Barletta**. Now we also have a procedure to welcome new members and get their contact data to the staff that need it. Next they will be working on profiling a member about every other month to allow us to learn about our colleagues. **Kathy Clark** sorts through the events happening in New Jersey and shares them with the membership in a weekly message.

After several years of asking and searching for the right person to assist in publicizing our events and happening, **Ellen Preston** came to us and agreed to serve our Round Table in performing this task. Currently we are listing on the **NJCWRT** mailing, the **League of Historical Societies of New Jersey**, on the **Courier Post website**, on our Facebook page, and with the **Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility**. If you know of another place to list our happenings, please share it with Ellen.

We started the year with a successful luncheon honoring **Mike Cavanaugh** bringing together long term and current members and friends from around the area. Soon we will begin planning our **40th Anniversary** luncheon to be held in January 2017. Join us in putting together a grand celebration.

This year OBCWRT will gather funds to donate wreaths and be present to place them on Saturday December 17th for the **Wreaths Across America** event. We will also be placing 35 star flags on the graves of Civil War veterans at the **Johnson Cemetery Memorial Park** in Camden around Memorial Day.

After a good 2014 travel season to the **New Jersey History Fair**, **The Civil War Weekend at Cold Springs**, and **Old Baldy lecture series**, **Bob Russo** worked in the offseason to improve our presentation material. He made brackets to attach the display board to the table, put hooks to hang the banner from the tent and totally redid the display board with current pictures. Our appearances this year included **Neshaminy**, **Manor Day**, and **Mullica Hill**. If you know of other events in the area for OBCWRT to appear tell Bob. Be sure to sign up to staff our table at upcoming events. Thank you to all who appeared for us this year.

Our own **Joe Wilson**, along with his brother and Rich Mendoza produced an excellent documentary on **Civil War Prisons** that was debuted at the College in October with 283 citizens coming out to see it. It is now entered in the **Garden State Film Festival** and could receive an

award in the Spring.

After his retirement, **Jim Heenahan** agreed to oversee the **Book Award Committee** and is working with **Irene Wright** and **Geri Hughes** to develop criteria, review children's book on a specific topic in order to make an award next Fall. Look for updates throughout the year.

Old Baldy is sponsoring a **Civil War Symposium** from 9-4 on October 22, 2016 at **Camden County College**. We have met with the facilities and food services folks at the College, have contacted some presenters and developed some plans. We will need the assistance of several members to tie up loose ends and follow-up on details. If you would like to help with Grant applications, coordinating activities, preparing the packets for the attendees or any of the other tasks, please let Frank or me know. This is another opportunity for our Round Table to shine in South Jersey.

Under the topic of one of our own doing well, Vice President **Bob Russo** completed the training, studied the material and has been serving as a volunteer at **Independence National Park in Philadelphia** several Saturdays mornings each month.

If there is an area or interest that you would like to assist our Round Table in developing further [whether current or new], please let us know. It is through several members contributing some that we have grown to where are currently, and with your input we will continue. Remember elections will be in December, consider serving on the Board of this dynamic organization.

Rich Jankowski, President

Notes from the President...

Happy New Year to all! Hope your Holiday Season was safe, enjoyable and relaxing. We are looking forward to another great year as Old Baldy continues to grow and spread our message of promoting and preserving Civil War History. If you have not submitted your dues to fund our activities, please do so soon by sending them to Herb Kaufman or provide them to Bill Hughes at the next meeting. If you know someone with an interest in the Civil War or history invite them to join us at an upcoming presentation.

Last month **Randy and Denise Drais** told us all about the "Rock Carvings at Gettysburg." This month is your turn to share your family Military History. Come hear about the ancestors of our fellow members who have served the Nation. It is a lead up for our Iwo Jima event on February 11th. Pick up some flyers and share with everyone you know so we have a full house for **Bill and Steve**.

Please read the "**State of the Round Table**" report to learn how our fellow members advanced our group last year and what opportunities are available this year. We all benefit when many do some as our advancement in Southern New Jersey continues. Also read about some of the adventures our members have had. Thanks to all who have contributed. Send **Don Wiles** a write up of your activities. Let us know what else to add to our website to better serve you.

It was a pleasure to see **Nancy Bowker** and her daughter at Laurel Hill for the Meade 200th Birthday Celebration. Look for photos and article about this event in this newsletter.

Continued on page 3

If you represent Old Baldy at an event, send Don some photos with a brief explanation for the newsletter. Look for Lincoln events next month.

Join us at the Lamp Post for a pre-meeting meal and good conversation.

Rich Jankowski, President



from the Treasurer's Desk - 2016 Dues

Greetings and best wishes for a very wonderful holiday season and Happy New Year to all the members of the Old Baldy CWRT.

Our round table has just completed a banner year that featured outstanding speakers on a wide variety of topics. Of course, all members will continue to receive our truly superb monthly Old Baldy newsletter. More importantly, the round table has continued to flourish in South Jersey. Our membership has steadily increased, and it is anticipated that your continued membership and participation will allow Old Baldy to continue as the premier Civil War round table in this area.

Thanks to all members who are attending our monthly meetings. The Program Committee has already been hard at work lining up a great list of speakers and programs for next year.

Remember, it is your round table.

Let us know of your interests and how Old Baldy CWRT can best provide you with education, friendship and an enjoyable evening.

As we enter 2016, your annual dues are due. We have some really great programs and discussions planned and we hope that you will remain a member of our renowned round table.

Dues remain only \$25.00 (\$35.00 for the entire family). If you wish to continue to have our outstanding newsletter sent by USPS, please add a donation of \$10.00 for the year, in addition to your dues.

Please bring your dues to the next meeting, or mail your dues your dues payable to:

**"OLD BALDY CWRT"
Herb Kaufman, Treasurer
2601 Bonnie Lane
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006.**

We hope that everyone will come out to a meeting and join in the discussions. It's a great night out with friends who share your interests and enthusiasm for this era.

*All the best for the holidays and coming year,
Herb*



Wreaths across America...

Old Baldy CWRT was represented at Wreaths across America (WAA) at the Beverly National Cemetery on December 12th. My wife Debbie and I were present to assist approximately 300 citizens place over 1700 wreaths on the graves of some of the veterans buried there. After a ceremony with speeches, an honor guard, Taps and explanation of the event, those present lined up to get the wreaths to be placed in section W and Z of the cemetery. The presenters were advised to pause after placing the wreath against the headstone to recognize the individual. It was stated the 1700+ was an increase of 500 over the 1200+ donated last year.

The mission of WAA is to: "Remember, Honor, Teach, and is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies on a specified Saturday in December at Arlington, as well as veterans cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond."

A week of events are organized, including international veteran's tributes, ceremonies at State Houses and a week-long "Veteran's Parade" between Maine and Virginia where they stop along the way to spread the message about the importance of remembering our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.

This week of events is made possible by thousands of volunteers who organize local ceremonies, raise funds to sponsor wreaths, and participate in the events. The project receives no government funding. The cost of the programs is paid by individual wreaths sponsors, corporate donors and volunteer truckers.

The story behind the program is available at <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/about/history/>

It began when a wreath maker in Maine sent extra wreaths to Arlington and has blossomed to an annual event across the nation. Next year our Round Table will gather funds to donate wreaths and be present to lay them on the graves of those who served. If you are interested in making this happen, let us know.



Member Profile:

We will try to provide a profile of each of the fine members of the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable. Their Contributions, accomplishments and interests.

Don Wiles

Newsletter Editor, Old Baldy CWRT

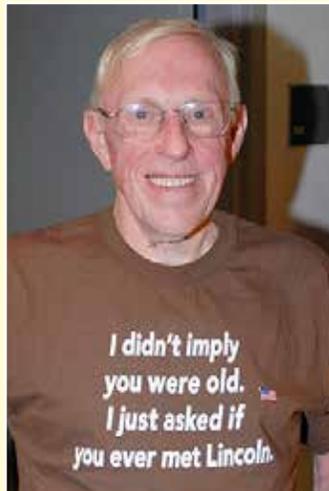
Born in York, Pennsylvania (Captured by Confederates during the Gettysburg Campaign without firing a shot!). Grew up in York, which is about 25 miles from Gettysburg.

Spent many family picnics there after WWII when gas became available again. We were able to spread out the food, sheets and blankets on any of the large flat boulders on the battlefield including "Devil's Den". Became fascinated with the monuments and had so many questions that my grandmother gave me my first Civil War book "Gettysburg, The Pictures and the Story" Pub. 1913 of which I still have.

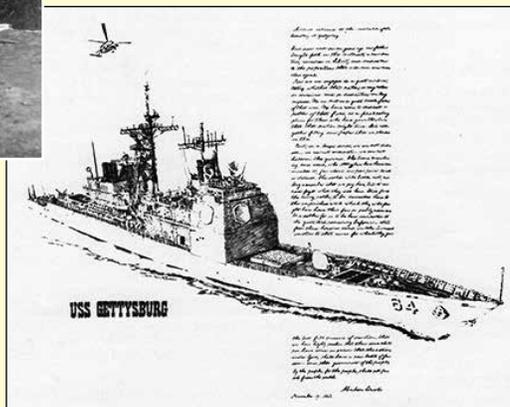
My father had purchased the Dobbin House in Gettysburg in the early 1950s and set up a museum and a large diorama of the Gettysburg Battlefield. He had sold the Dobbin House in the latter 1960s

Tried college after high school, but soon quit to follow a desire to draw and took a job with a local advertising agency. Followed an uncle to Florida (an area called Cape Canaveral) in the late 1950s, married a girl from York, had three children (two boys, 1 girl... now have five grandchildren - all girls) and settled in Florida. Became friends with a high school teacher (Quaker) who had written books on Civil War prisons and did private research for Richard Nixon on his grandfather's Civil War experiences, death and grave location (Gettysburg) for the President. He started my interest in the CW again by supplying my kids with CW books as gifts for me. He also got me to be a chaperon on CW field trips he took his students on to Olustee and Atlantic forts along Florida and Georgia.

My main interest changed to Space after going to work at the Kennedy Space Center. Worked there until the middle 1980s doing illustrations for the Astronauts, NASA and several different private company projects. Had received several awards and had some of my artwork go to the moon and back. My three children finished college and were on their way with life and my wife had died from cancer, so I moved back North and worked for several advertising agencies and companies. Remarried and my new



Don at a family picnic on Devil's Den - 1940s



Drawing of the AEGIS Guided Missile Cruiser "USS Gettysburg CG 64"

wife showed me an article in the Philly Inquirer about a not so well known gold mine of CW history on Pine Street in Philly. Went to my first meeting in the late 1980s and renewed my interest with the museum and the Round Table. Kind of became a part time member of the Round table for a few years due to doing lots of seminars and tours.

I started doing the "Old Baldy" newsletter in 2004. I hope I have made the newsletter into a vehicle of not just news and events but a way to share interesting and learning articles of the Civil War.

I started going to CW seminars and tours for most of the 1990s and 2000s. Have collected several hundreds of CW books (ORs, Confederate Veterans, etc.). My main interest has gone back to Gettysburg of which I have collected information and thousands of photos of the Gettysburg Campaign. Have been on many private tours with Historians, Authors, ALBGs and Rangers. Walked the battlefield in the hot sun, rain, ice and snow, covered with multitudes of ticks, scratches from "sticker bushes", found locations of missing monuments/markers, earthworks, battery lunettes and have met and enjoyed the friendship of many nice Civil War "Nuts" over a 30 year span.

For the commissioning of the new Aegis Missile Cruiser Gettysburg at Philadelphia in 1991 I was given the opportunity to do an illustration of the ship to hang in the captain's wardroom.

I also got interested in Family history due to a granddaughter asking where our family came from. We always thought we were from Wales but not true. Turns out all the family lines came from the German area of Europe. Along with that I started looking for CW soldiers... I found over 30 soldiers in the major family lines. Have only done some research on 7-8 of them. Found over 600 pages of information on three of them from the National Archives, which lead to finding the lost grave of one of them. Also learned of great stories on some of them; Sultana survivor, West Point judge, a fort builder, several

wounded ones and some who ended up captured and put in Libby, Andersonville and Salisbury prisons and those who were killed.

They say getting old sucks... it may have curtailed my traveling a little but won't stop my love of history, research, photography and drawing on the Civil War and family.

Also attending the Annual Gettysburg Hog Maw dinner.

**WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>
Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table**

My Trip to the Mississippi Gulf States

By Kathy Clark, OBCWRT Member

From October 10 – 17 I was on the road again, not in my car this time, but on a bus toward the Mississippi Gulf States. It took two days to get to Georgia with our first stop at Warm Springs FDR's "Little White House".

FDR came to Warm Springs in 1924 in hopes that the warm mineral springs would help him recover from polio. He loved the area so much that he contacted Henry Toombs to design a cottage for him where he could retreat and take in the warm mineral springs. The cottage was completed in 1932 while FDR was governor of New York. When he became 32nd president for four elected terms the cottage was renamed "The Little White House". On April 12, while FDR was sitting for a portrait by artist Madame Elizabeth Shoumatoff, he had a massive stroke. He was taken to his room where he died later that day. The unfinished portrait along with personal belongings are displayed at the cottage and newly opened museum. This area is so serene and wooded that it is very much a retreat for relaxation or contemplation. Looking out from the back porch of the cottage, I can understand why FDR chose this area for his special place. In addition to the cottage there are the memorial fountain, the Walk of States, the FDR museum, two classic Roosevelt cars and a film narrated by Walter Cronkite.



Unfinished Portrait of FDR

"The Little White House"



Roosevelt's Warm Springs Institute

FDR found the strength to resume his political career and his own personal struggle with polio by creating the Warm

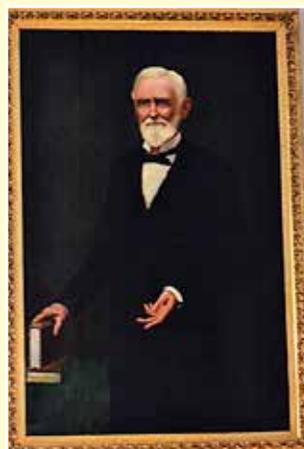


Underground Spring Source



Example of a Therapy Pool

Springs Foundation. This foundation which became the first and for many years was the only hospital devoted solely to the treatment of poliomyelitis victims in the world. During FDR's visits to the cottage, he developed New Deal programs and carried on important official duties. The organization became the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and was helpful in developing a cure for polio. We made a special trip, about two miles from the cottage, to Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute. The warm water from the underground spring was used to fill the many pools for therapy sessions with the patients. Currently, the spring water is not in the pools but if it were the water would fill all the pools in a short amount of time. The spring waters are an underground water source.



Jefferson Davis

Later that day, we arrived at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi and stayed for three days. The following day, we had the very special visit to Beauvoir (meaning beautiful view or beautiful to see), the last home of Jefferson Davis. Hurricane Katrina's storm took the Old Brick Hospital Museum, Davis' study, and washed out the first floor of Davis' Presidential Library. The storm also destroyed the catafalque that took Davis's body to his grave at Metairie Cemetery upon his death on December 6, 1889. Ten years later, Davis' study, where he did his writing, was rebuilt. It was there that he and Varina wrote, "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government". Several out buildings, the guest house, cistern, kitchen, and even Varina's rose garden were reproduced as a result of Katrina. The main house, which was elevated on 62-foot-tall brick piers to provide antebellum air conditioning, saved the house from the storm surge of Camille and Katrina. The home was purchased by Samuel Dorsey and his wife Sarah in 1873. After Samuel died in 1875, Sarah, learning of Davis' difficulties, invited him to visit the plantation. She offered him a cottage near

Beauvoir (meaning beautiful view or beautiful to see), the last home of Jefferson Davis. Hurricane Katrina's storm took the Old Brick Hospital Museum, Davis' study, and washed out the first floor of Davis' Presidential Library. The storm also destroyed the catafalque that took Davis's body to his grave at Metairie



Beauvoir - Davis' Last Home



The Davis Library where he wrote until he died in 1898

Continued from page 5 - "Mississippi Gulf States"

the main house to write and ended up with his family living there the rest of his life. When Sarah became ill with cancer she remade her will bequeathing "Beauvoir" to Davis and his daughter Varina Anne Davis (Winnie). After the death of Winnie in 1898, Varina Howell Davis inherited the property. She sold it in 1902 to the Sons of Confederate Veterans to be used as a Confederate state veterans home and later a memorial to her husband. The house is restored to its original grandeur with outstanding ceilings, beautifully preserved wood panels and elegant furnishings. The portrait of Jefferson Davis hanging in the music parlor shows an older Southern gentleman whom, I think, might have been reflecting upon the four years of Civil War.

In the afternoon, we went on a sailfish shrimp boat with the Biloxi Shrimping Trip on the Mississippi sound. Our captain put the nets into the water and came up with a catch of shrimp, small fish of difference types, and a good size jellyfish. The school of porpoise followed alongside the boat, coming up for air and then diving back down into the water. When the catch was thrown back into the sound, you would have seen the sea gulls coming fast and furious to retrieve what they could catch. Brown pelicans were also around to get whatever they could find. It was an interesting



View of Gulf Coast and Lighthouse

Seagulls trying to catch what was thrown overboard

Seagulls trying to catch what was thrown overboard



Shrimp Boat

trip learning much about the shrimping industry in Biloxi.

Finally, the day conclude with a tour of Biloxi and the aftermath of Katrina. There are many lots along the beach area that have steps to nowhere. Beautiful Antebellum homes caught in the storms' rage are gone forever. At the same time casinos with their many floors and elegant designs no longer are on the beach front property. New laws dictate that all new building must be at least a block from the beach. The beauty of that is now there is a clear view of the beach with a large area of sand for swimming and recreational activities.



Porpoise in the Mississippi Sound

There is a beautiful memorial to the people lost as a result of Karina. At the top of the stone monument is the high water mark. At the height of the storm's surge the mean sea level was reported reaching 34.1 feet. There is also a town green with a gazebo for summer concerts and a very interesting sculpture of a sailfish and other sea life of the Gulf. To my surprise and pleasure we got to the visitor's center

High Water Mark, Katrina Memorial



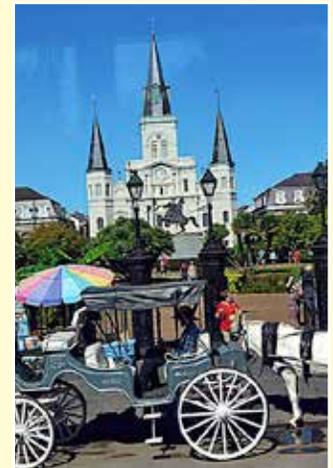
Sculpture of a sailfish located near the Katrina Memorial



Katrina Memorial with the names of all who died in this area

which was located right across from the Biloxi lighthouse (I am always overjoyed to see another lighthouse) which is located on US. 90 currently on grassy area between the two roads. There was a great view of the beacon on the second floor of the visitor's center.

The following day we were on our way to New Orleans for a city tour. One of the interesting stops was to the Sisters of Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Much like a city of its own, all the vaults are above ground because the land is below sea level. Some of the vaults are a century and a half old and are arranged like houses in a city. They are beautifully designed, with additional spaces for other family members. Once the body was put into the tomb and the service was concluded, the door was bricked over and sealed. Some tomb designs are very elaborate for the elite of society, but for those who are not able to afford a private tomb there



New Orleans



Sisters of Mount Carmel Cemetery, City of Vaults



Cemetery Wall Vaults

are wall vaults. They are directly in the walls surrounding the cemetery similar to our mausoleums. After a minimum period of time (usually one year and a day), the brick wall can be reopened and other family members can be laid to rest in the tomb resulting in many names on the front wall of the tomb. There are many family tombs (affluent fami-



Confederate Memorial Hall



Parrott Rifle



Beauregard

Lee

Forrest

Bragg



lies preferred tombs as a sign of status and culture), society tombs we for the members of various organizations and their families.

After a two-hour tour we had a jazz brunch at "The Court of Two Sisters". With some free time in the afternoon, I took a cab, to the Confederate Memorial Hall formerly known as the Confederate Museum. Founded in January 8, 1891, the halls are dedicated to the exhibition and preservation of the southern Civil War artifacts. It is the oldest museum in the state of Louisiana. The museum has the largest collections of over 100 Confederate battle flags, uniforms, and rare Louisiana-made swords. Entering into the museum, I saw a large parrot gun, along with many display cases of exhibits relating to the everyday life of the Confederate forces, the personal belonging of Lee, Beauregard, Bragg, and Gardner, battle flags, Civil War uniforms, as well as Jefferson Davis memorabilia donated by Varina Davis.

Just outside the museum is Lee Circle, a tribute to Robert E. Lee, where a 16-foot statute stands atop a 60-foot white marble column. Erected in 1884, the statute faces the North where, as lore has it, he can always look in the direction of his military adversaries. Across the street is the World War II museum which is now twice the size then it was when first built. It is truly an interesting building. No visit to New Orleans would be complete without visiting Café Du Monde for their famous beignets and café au lait - delicious!



Lee Circle

The next day's tour was to Bellingrath Gardens and House - a lesser known attraction located in Theodore, Alabama. The house and garden were the creation of Walter and Bessie Bellingrath. Mr. Bellingrath owned Mobile's first Coca-Cola bottling company

Bellingrath Home



Mirror Lake, Bellingrath Gardens

in 1903. He purchased the riverfront property formerly known as "Belle Camp" and began developing the gardens in 1927 and converted this fishing camp into a country estate. Strolling along the garden paths, through the rose garden and conservatory,

on to Mirror Lake and the river pavilion along the Fowl River, the beautiful home is viewed as well as the 65 acres of garden which are outstanding. Not knowing anything about the Bellingrath home and gardens I was pleasantly surprised at the beauty that was all around —It was well worth the visit.

The final sightseeing tour of the trip was the CNN building in Atlanta. We took a studio tour which highlighted the CNN and HLN newsrooms. We began the tour with a long ride up the world's largest free standing escalator to the top of the world! We saw how a teleprompter works, as well as, a green screen which turns into a weather map. The Morning Express with Robin Meade was airing at the time and we got a sneak peak at what goes on in the studio while the show is on the air. I even got my photo taken behind a CNN desk reading the news. It was a learning experience to say the least for I now know some of the tricks to TV production!



Returning home, I take with me so much new information about hurricane



Katrina and FDR's home in Warm Springs. The knowledge I acquired viewing beautiful Beauvoir, touring New Orleans and the Confederate Museum along with the magnificent gardens

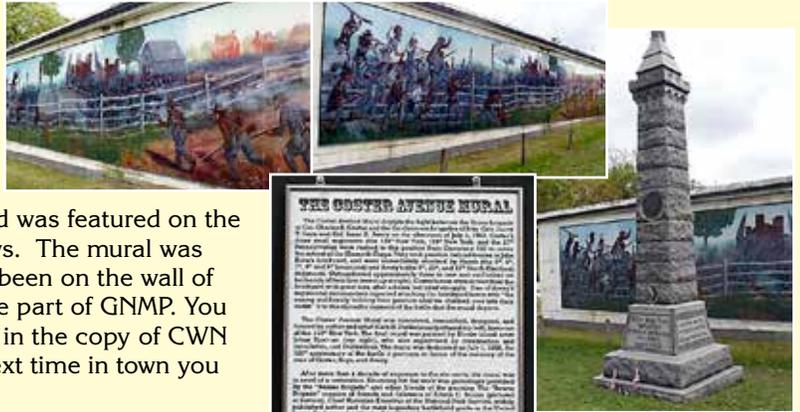


and home at Bellingrath, was enhanced. I can't forget the tour of the CNN studios in Atlanta and the escalator that goes to the world. The knowledge and the experience gained through these trip was invaluable! Traveling allows new adventures to take place. I continue my journeys and am always glad to tell my story. Until the next adventure — —travel, learn, explore, and always have fun!

"On the Road with Rich"

"Brickyard Fight"

After the Del Val Preservation Committee Fall monument cleanup of the 27th PA monument on East Cemetery Hill, we stopped by the "Brickyard Fight" mural on Coster Street. It is off North Stratton Street and was featured on the front page of the November edition of the Civil War News. The mural was reproduced on glass to replace the fading one that had been on the wall of Coldsmith Roofing. The site is a three-quarter of an acre part of GNMP. You can read about the mural and process used to restore it in the copy of CWN that all members received. Parking is a challenge but next time in town you should visit it.



"Missing Soldiers Office"

We then cruised down Rt. 15 to 270 toward Washington, checked into the hotel and walked to the Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office on 7th Street. It is part of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine and was opened to the public in July 2015. The story of how it was discovered, saved and turned into a museum is told in a video on the first floor. There are several exhibits to read explaining Clara Barton's role in locating missing soldiers and Washington during the War. A tour of the preserved rooms that served as the office is available for \$9.50. Since the third floor was boarded up in 1913 to save the expense of bringing it up to fire code the rooms remained unaltered until discovered in 1996. The GSA worked with experts and artisans to restore the third floor to how it was when Clara Barton used it.



During the War Clara Barton collected supplies and delivered them to soldiers in the field hospitals. As the War was drawing to an end, she opened an office to find missing soldiers for their friends and families. The Missing Soldiers Office were able to locate 22,000 men, some were still alive, of the 68,000 requests for help received. Of this total 13,000 were in Andersonville Prison. This was done with the assistance of Dorence Atwater, a prisoner there responsible for burying the dead. He maintained a listing of the names and locations of their graves for the Confederate government and kept a copy for himself. After the War, he published it as well as turning it over to Clara Barton. Together they visited Andersonville and marked each of the graves. Later in her life she found the American Red Cross, which responded to natural disasters like the Johnstown Flood and the Galveston Hurricane.



The office is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 12-7. It is located at 437 7th Street NW in Washington DC. The website is <http://www.clarabartonmuseum.org/>

"Dark Fields"

After the tour we strolled to the National Portrait Gallery to see what new Civil War exhibits they had. We found "Dark Fields of the Republic" Alexander Gardner Photographs 1859-1872. Alexander Gardner created vivid photographs of battlefields that haunted the national imagination. After the war, Gardner went west, creating unforgettable pictures of western landscape and portraits of American Indians. The exhibit contains portraits of President Lincoln and other military and civilian leading figures. Also included is the February 5, 1865 "cracked-plate" photograph of Lincoln.



The display documents the progression of American expansion as settlers moved westward after the war with landscapes and portraits of American Indians. More information is available at <http://npg.si.edu/exhibit/exh-gardner.html>

The exhibit is on the second floor on the G Street side of the building. It runs through March 13, 2016. The Museum is open 11:30 am to 7 pm daily. Along with the co-located Smithsonian American Art Museum, the National Portrait Gallery has interesting exhibits and we attempt to visit whenever we are in town.

General Meade's 200th Birthday

The Annual Birthday Celebration and Toast for General Meade's 200th Birthday and 175th Wedding anniversary was well attended on a cool December 31st at Laurel Hill Cemetery. The program, led by **Dr. Andy Waskie**, was more structured this year because of the special anniversary. There were musical interludes by **Beck's Philadelphia Brigade Band** and about eight decedents of the General were in attendance. In addition to greetings from many of the Philadelphia Civil War organizations, an Honor Volley and 'Taps,' several wreaths were placed at the graves of the General and Margaretta Meade. The Keynote Address was given by Meade Historian **Tom Huntingdon**. Military units from around the Delaware Valley were represented in uniform, as were various civilians in period dress. The event concluded with the traditional Champagne Toast and soup at the Gatehouse. Various members of our Round Table were present including **John Voris, Kerry Bryan, Herb Kaufman, Walt Lafty, Nancy Bowker and Blair and Carol Thron**. New Jersey's own **Bob Costello** appeared as President Lincoln. The Round Table received greetings from many of its friends; our March speaker **Bob Hanrahan, Hugh Boyle, Albert El, Bill Vossler, Dick Simson**, plus various members of the Delaware Valley CWRT. The tree behind the graves has witnessed many visitors in the last 140 years including several Presidents.

It has become diseased and will soon be taken down. Brief acknowledgement of it was given near the end of the ceremony.



Wreaths on the Meade graves



Witness tree



Walt Lafty



Herb Kaufman, Hugh Boyle and Bob Hanrahan



John Voris with Andy Waskie



Bob Costello



Tom Huntingdon
Various units



Major General
George Gordon Meade

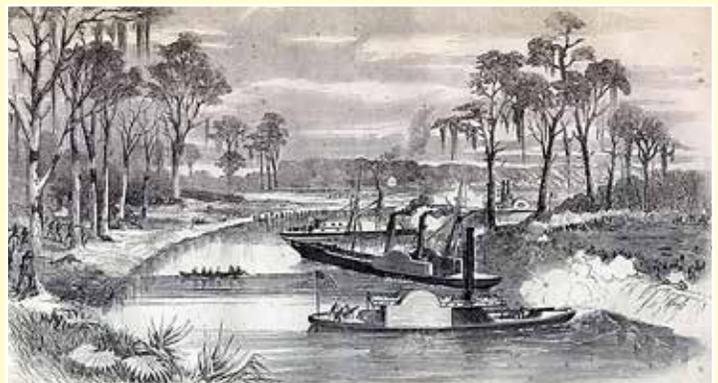
January 14, 1863... "Bayou Teche"

Harpers Weekly

THE BATTLE IN BAYOU TECHE.

OUR attentive New Orleans correspondent sends us a sketch—which we reproduce on page 101—of the BATTLE OF CORNEY'S BRIDGE, in Bayou Teche, Louisiana, fought by General Weitzel on 14th January. He had gone up the bayou to destroy a rebel boat called the Cotton. The Times correspondent thus describes the affair:

Early on Wednesday morning, at 6 A.M., the Diana, Captain Goodwin, was ordered to go down the bayou to Lynch's Point, to take the Eighth Vermont across to the left or northern bank, in order for a flank movement on the enemy. At 7 the Calhoun, Commodore Buchanan, Kinsman, Captain Wiggin, and Estrella, Captain Cook, commenced moving slowly up the bayou, and at 8 o'clock reached the formidable obstruction. This was at a place called Corney's Bridge, from a man of that name owning a plantation there. Nothing but the piles of the old bridge remain, protruding about three or four feet above water, and against these the rebels had sunk an old steamer, filled with brick,



and placed all manner of rubbish—making it impossible at that time either for the Cotton to come down to us or for us to get at her.

At this time, about 8.45, an artillery duel commenced between our gun-boats and the gun-boat Cotton and the rebel batteries. The firing continued for some time without any manifest difference to either party. A few desultory rifle-shots



Major General Godfrey (Gottfried) Weitzel

had been fired at us from the shore.

Suddenly the Kinsman felt something explode under her; it was a torpedo, and her stern was violently lifted in the air,

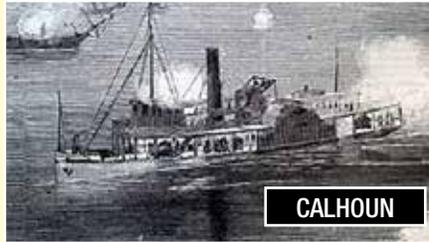
but fortunately with no damage, as was afterward found. An aid of General Weitzel came galloping up to tell the Kinsman of another torpedo being planted right ahead, a contraband, escaped from the Cotton, having brought the intelligence. Owing to this, and one of her guns being disabled—so the Kinsman's officers all assured me—she was cautiously dropping back, after warning both the Estrella and Calhoun of what had been told her.

Commodore Buchanan, either not hearing or not heeding the information, at once steamed up right ahead of both the Estrella and the Kinsman, and personally seized the post of danger. It was now about 10 o'clock, when the rebels, from behind their concealed rifle-pits, poured forth a most murderous volley upon our men; and the Cotton coming down to attack our batteries, the fight became severe and general.

The gallant Buchanan was one of the first to fall. He was standing forward, spy-glass in hand, a motionless target for the deadly missiles of the hidden enemy. W. D. Brown, Acting Chief Engineer, who was near him at the time, having received a spent ball in the thigh, the Commodore said: "Ah! you've got it." The very next moment a ball struck Buchanan in the right cheek, immediately below the temple, passing through to the opposite side. He exclaimed, "My God!" and fell back dead. Some say this gallant officer was rash on this occasion, and threw away his loved and valued life; perhaps so, but it was a rashness which will endear his heroic name forever.

To show how terribly murderous was the position in which our boats were placed, it is only necessary to state that at this point the bayou was so narrow that the Calhoun in turning had her bow and stern aground.

While this was going on our land-forces were by no means idle. The Eighth Vermont, as soon as they had been brought across from Lynch's Point in the Diana, at once attacked the rebels in the rear of their rifle-pits; and during a brisk and sharp engagement killed several, took forty prisoners, and put the rest to flight, their cannon leading the way. But for this sudden and gallant assistance from the Eighth Vermont, there can be little doubt that the Calhoun would have been lost, from the impetuosity with which the rebels were firing upon her.



CALHOUN



DIANA



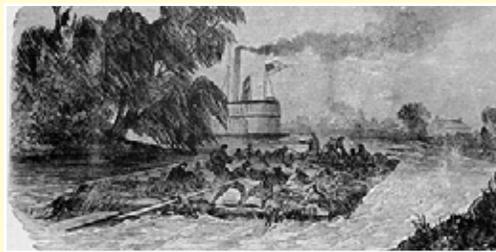
ESTRELLA

In the mean time, no less efficient aid was being given by other portions of our troops. Three batteries—the First Maine, Lieutenant Bradbury; one section of the Fourth Massachusetts, under Lieutenant Briggs, and Captain W. W. Carruth's Sixth Massachusetts—had gone round by the woods, from Patersonville to a point above the Cotton, where they could successfully play upon her; and in this they were assisted by some of the One Hundred and Sixtieth New York, and 60 sharpshooters of the Seventy-fifth New York, who played havoc among the crew of the rebel gun-boat, which was one of those enormous Mississippi steamers, protected by cotton wherever possible, and clad in iron.

Thrice did this ungainly monster retire up the bayou, from the effect of the deadly iron hail poured into her, and thrice did she desperately come up to renew the contest. She came once too often, however; for, after having had her men nearly cleaned out of her, the last time she made her appearance—which

was at 2 o'clock next morning—she was floating in solitary glory down the bayou, one sheet of flame.

The game being over, and the ostensible object of the expedition accomplished, our gun-boats and land-forces returned in perfect order and good spirits.



Removing wounded men from the battle by raft

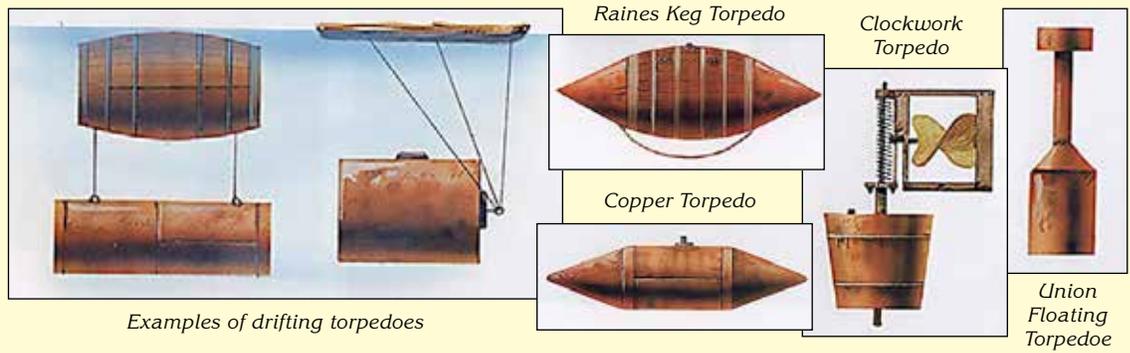
The wreck of the CSS Cotton



The **Bayou Teche** is a 125-mile-long waterway of great cultural significance in south central Louisiana in the United States. Bayou Teche was the Mississippi River's main course when it developed a delta about 2,800 to 4,500 years ago. Through a natural process known as deltaic switching, the river's deposits of silt and sediment cause the Mississippi to change its course every thousand years or so.

Torpedo (Floating Mines) - an explosive device, without motive power, which is used to prevent vessels or personnel from coming into an area, or channeling them into a

preselected avenue of approach. The Confederates referred to naval torpedoes as torpedoes and land torpedoes as sub-terra shell. The Union personnel referred to both as torpedoes. In modern terminology, torpedoes would be called naval mines or land mines.



REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT REPORTS DEATH OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER THOMAS BUCHANAN McKEAN, AND ENGAGEMENT AT BAYOU TECHE.

Lieutenant Commander Thomas McKean Buchanan



SIR: It becomes my painful duty to report to you the death of Lieutenant Commander Thomas McKean Buchanan, who lost his life yesterday (January 14) in an attack upon the rebel steamer Cotton, and the batteries erected at the obstructions in the river Teche. The Calhoun lost also two men, and had five wounded. Lieutenant Commander Buchanan was one of our most gallant and persevering young officers. He informed me two days ago that he thought the enemy was about to make an attack on him, and that he would anticipate them. In reply to my letter, in which I enjoined him to do his whole duty on this occasion, he assured me that I need give myself no uneasiness upon that score, as they had all determined to go down rather than surrender. It appears, how ever, that he lost his life by pushing forward, according to General Weitzel's account, too recklessly; but his efforts were fully successful, and drove the enemy from his positions, as will be seen by the reports of Lieutenant Commander A. P. Cooke and General Weitzel, copies of which are hereto appended. Our forces are now endeavoring to pull up the obstructions and follow the Cotton up the Teche.

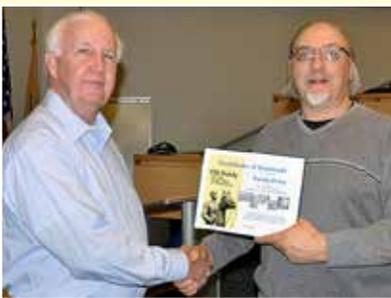
UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD,
New Orleans, January 15, 1863.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. G. FARRAGUT, Rear-Admiral.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

December 10th Meeting

"Rock Carvings at Gettysburg"



Randy and Denise Drais



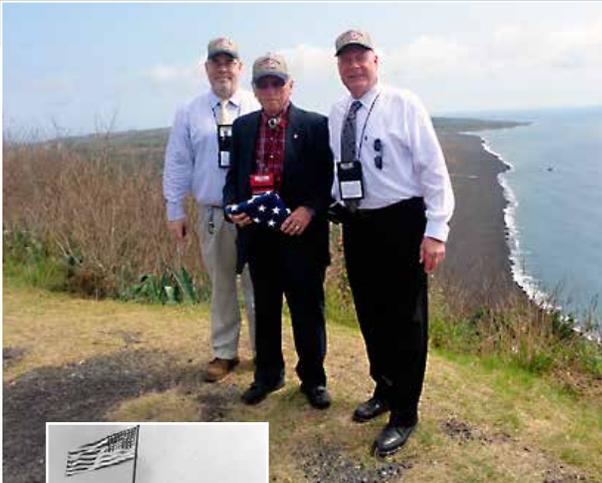
Another look at one of those unique subjects that gives us a look into the men who fought and died in the Civil War on the fields of Gettysburg. Randy has found a unique and interesting way of exploring the Gettysburg Battlefield. Looking for some kind of marks left by soldiers who fought there or returned there in the future because of a monument dedication or regimental reunion. One of the more unusual facets of the Gettysburg battlefield is the existence of many rock carvings. Rock carvings are found in many areas of the 6,000 acres that encompass the Gettysburg National Military

Park. He has found these rocks and carvings have a way of telling a unique and sometimes a tragic story of those soldiers who left their mark. Marks have been left by both Union and Confederate soldiers. These rock carvings locate the spot of a wounding, a death or a grave marker of a soldier who was field buried and so they could locate his body after the battle. Several veterans on returning to the battlefield



left their marks at the location they fought at during the battle. Randy and Denise have done extensive research into the stories of these soldiers and have put together a fine presentation that they shared with us. I am sure we all walked away learning another way of discovering the stories of our ancestors and what they did for our future.

Return to Iwo Jima



Steven Wright (l) and Bill Holdsworth (r) on Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima – flanking their friend, and Iwo Jima survivor, Carl DeHaven. Mr. DeHaven (of League City, TX) served with the Fifth Marines on Iwo Jima and Guam.

**Thursday, February 11, 2016
7 p.m.
Large Lecture Hall-Room 105,
Connector building,
Blackwood Campus
Camden County College**



On February 19, 1945, the first of an eventual 70,000 U. S. Marines landed on the Pacific island of Iwo Jima, to face over 20,000 determined Imperial Japanese defenders. By the time it was over thirty-six days later, Americans had suffered over 26,000 casualties, of which more than 6,800 were killed. Japanese losses were staggering: of the nearly 21,000 defenders, only 216 were captured alive.

In March 2015, as part of the joint American-Japanese 70th anniversary “Reunion of Honor” ceremonies, independent historians Steven J. Wright and William C. Holdsworth visited the island with more than fifty veterans of the battle – including one Japanese survivor, Tsuruji Akikusa – and the last surviving Iwo Jima Medal of Honor recipient Hershel “Woody” Williams. Holdsworth and Wright will present their experience in the program: Return to Iwo Jima.

Steven J. Wright has authored 2 books and over 300 articles and reviews on the American Civil War. He holds advanced degrees in American History and American Indian Studies, and Library and Information Science. He is a member of the faculty of the Civil War Institute of Manor College, and is a member and past President of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia.

William C. Holdsworth attended Montgomery County Community College, and has made a successful career in Sales & Marketing in the record business, working for RCA Records, PolyGram Records, and the Universal Music Group. He and his wife have three sons, one of whom is a U. S. Marine. Bill is a member and former Vice President of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia.



**Old Baldy
Civil War Round
Table
of Philadelphia**



No Charge

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table Clothing Items

1 - Short Sleeve Cotton Tee - \$23.00

Gildan 100% cotton, 6.1oz.

Color Options: Red, White, Navy, Tan

Sizes: Adult: S-3XL Adult Sizes: S(34-36); M(38-40); L(42-44); XL(46-48); XXL(50-52); 3XL(54-55)

2 - Long Sleeve Cotton Tee - \$27.00

Gildan 100% cotton, 6.1oz.

Color Options: Red, White, Navy

Sizes: Adult: S-3XL Adult Sizes: S(34-36); M(38-40); L(42-44); XL(46-48); XXL(50-52); 3XL(54-55)

3 - Ladies Short Sleeve Polo - \$26.00

Anvil Pique Polo - 100% ring-spun cotton pique.

Color: Red, White, Navy, Yellow-Haze

Logo embroidered on left chest

Sizes: Ladies: S-2XL Ladies

Chest Size Front: S(17"); M(19"); L(21"); XL(23"); 2XL(24")

4 - Mens Short Sleeve Polo Shirt - \$26.00

Anvil Pique Polo - 100% ring-spun cotton pique.

Color: Red, White, Navy, Yellow-Haze

Logo embroidered on left

Sizes: Mens: S-3XL

Chest Size Front: S(19"); M(21"); L(23"); XL(25"); 2XL(27"); 3XL(29")

5 - Fleece Lined Hooded Jacket - \$48.00

Dickies Fleece Lined Nylon Jacket 100% Nylon Shell;

100% Polyester Fleece

Lining: Water Repellent Finish

Color: Navy or Black

Logo Embroidered on Left Chest

Size: Adult S-3XL

Chest Size: S(34-36"); M(38-40"); L(42-44"); XL(46-48"); 2XL(50-52"); 3XL(54-56")

6 - Sandwich Caps - \$20.00

Lightweight Cotton Sandwich Bill Cap 100% Brushed Cotton;

Mid Profile Color: Navy/White or Stone/Navy

Adjustable Closure

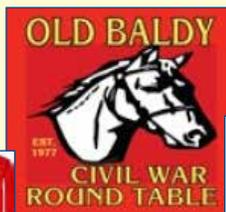
Orders will be shipped 2 weeks after they are placed. All orders will be shipped UPS ground, shipping charges will be incurred. UPS will not ship to PO Boxes, please contact Jeanne Reith if you would like to make other shipping arrangements.

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Items can be seen and ordered from the Old Baldy Web Site or the Manufacture's Web Site.



WINTER PLUS EVENTS

ONGOING EVENTS

Monmouth County Historical Society opens a new exhibition called "Beautiful Childhood: Portraits from the Permanent Collection" at the Monmouth County Historical Association's Museum at 70 Court Street. The exhibition created by Dr. Carol Lowrey, features 19th century portraits of children in various stages of development from toddlers to teenagers. For further information about the exhibition and association call 732-462-1466 or visit www.monmouthhistory.org.

Underground Railroad Exhibit at the Worker's House and Gallery at Smithville. The exhibit offers visitors a visual presentation of the Underground Railroad experience in America and Burlington County where it was active before the Civil War. Smithville Visitor Center, 803 Smithville Road, Eastampton; open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 10am-4pm and Sunday, noon-4pm. Co.burlington.nj.us/958/visitor-center or 609-265-5858

OTHER EVENTS

Military Organization and the Common Soldier of the Civil War

REGISTER ONLINE

AT WWW.CAMDENCC.EDU/CIVICCENTER

Click Mini Courses and follow the instructions.

COURSE NUMBER: IDY-209-69

INSTRUCTOR: H. Kaufman

LOCATION: ROH 110, the Executive Conference Room

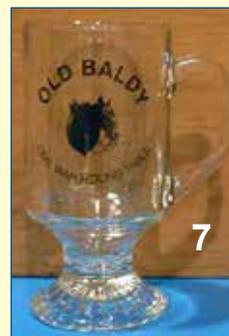
TIME: 4-6:30 p.m.

DAY: Thursdays, no class March 17

NOTE: Class will be held in ROH 212 on March 10. All other classes will be held in ROH 110

Focusing on the soldiers who enlisted in the Union & Confederate armies, this course examines the causes of the war as documented through American political history; military nomenclature, structure, tactics and weapons; the motivation of the soldiers; how innovation affected the conduct of the war; and the impact of the war on American life.

Continued on page 14



7 - Irish Fluted Glass - \$7.00

Can be used with either Cold or Hot Liquids

Week 1: 3/10/16 The Causes of the War
As documented through the political and social history of the United States.

Week 2: 3/24/16 Civil War Organization
Examines the validity of statistics, infantry structure, who are the soldiers & what their motivations are; recruiting; and understanding Civil war military nomenclature & organization.

Week 3 3/31/16 Tactics and Weapons
Military instruction, drills and the effect of West Point on officers; Napoleonic tactics; development of modern weaponry; tactics and utilization of infantry, artillery and cavalry during the war.

Week 4: 4/7/16 Home Life
The changing roles of women; photographing the war; news-papers & their influence; life at home including Thanksgiving, Christmas, baseball, and mourning customs.

Week 5: 4/14/16 In Their Own Words
Civil War glossaries and definitions; and the use of actual soldier correspondence.

Here is a list of Mini Courses that will be coming this Spring, to the Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility.

Session 1: January 21- February 23, 2016

Blackwood Evenings

The Hitler Phenomenon, R.Voldish - Tuesdays 1/26-2/23, 6:30-9:00pm Madison Hall, room 105

One Percent Better: An Introduction to Nutrition and Fitness Basics, C. Amburg with K. Jackson - Tuesdays 1/26-2/23, 6:30-9:00pm, Madison Hall, room 107

Cherry Hill Evenings

Opera-Passion, Politics, and Power, N. Markellos - Thursdays, 1/21-2/18, 4:00-6:30pm, ROH 110

Marching Through Old Dominion: Battle Ground Virginia, R. Baumgartner - Mondays, 1/25-2/22, 4:00-6:30pm, ROH 110

Cherry Hill Daytime

Discovering New Worlds, J. Okun - Fridays, 1/22-2/19, 10:00am-12:30pm, ROH 106B

Session 2: March 1- April 14, 2016

Blackwood Daytime

The Seventies: Decade of Doubt, J.Pesda - Tuesdays 3/1-4/5, 2:00-4:30pm, Connector 356

Blackwood Evenings

Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics, K. Jackson - Tuesdays 3/1-4/5, 6:30-9:00pm, Madison Hall, room 105

The Gothic Tradition in English and American Literature, R. Lorenzi - Mondays 3/7-4/11, 6:30-9:00pm, Madison Hall, room 105

Cherry Hill Evenings

The Shock of Rock: The Fight for the Souls of Our Youth, 1950-1970, J. Patrick - Tuesdays, 3/1-4/5, 6:30-9:00pm, ROH 110

African American Women Writers: the forgotten souls, big voices of the Harlem Renaissance, T. Malloy - Mondays, 3/7-4/11, 4:00-6:30pm, ROH 110

Military Organization and the Common Soldier of the Civil War, H. Kaufman - Thursdays, 3/10-4/14, 4:00-6:30pm, ROH 110

Camden County College
Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility
856-227-2700 x 4333

October 22, 2016
New Jersey Symposium

The Old Baldy Civil War Round Table and Camp Olden Civil War Round Table Civil War Symposium
at Camden County College
Blackwood, New Jersey
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Presentations by Noted Civil War Historians, exhibits, period musical entertainment.

For Information: oldbaldycwrt.org

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT
Speakers and Activities for 2016

January 14 – Thursday
“Your Family Military History”
Roundtable Discussion Night
Share your Family's Military History

February 11 – Thursday
“Return to Iwo Jima”
Steven J. Wright/William C. Holdsworth
(Historians)

March 10 – Thursday
“The U.S.S. Kearsarge vs. the C.S.S. Alabama”
Robert E. Hanrahan, Jr.
(Historian)

Questions to
Harry Jenkins - 302-834-3289 - hj3bama@verizon.net
Herb Kaufman - 215-947-4096 - shkaufman2@yahoo.com
Dave Gilson - 856-547-8130 - ddsghh@comcast.net

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia
Camden County College
Blackwood Campus - Connector Building
Room 101 Forum, Civic Hall, Atrium
856-427-4022 oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Founded January 1977

President: Richard Jankowski
Vice President: Bob Russo
Treasurer: Herb Kaufman
Secretary: Bill Hughes
Programs: Harry Jenkins
Herb Kaufman
Dave Gilson

Editor: Don Wiles - cwwiles@comcast.net