

Old Baldy Civil War



Round Table of Philadelphia

January 2004, The One Hundred and Forty-Third Year of the Civil War

First Meeting of 2004

January 8th Meeting of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table will start the New Year off at 7:30 pm on Thursday at the Civil War Library and Museum at 1805 Pine Street in Philadelphia. This year's first speaker will be our own **Bill Hughes**. Bill's topic will be "*The Civil War Papers of Lt. Colonel Newton T. Colby, New York Infantry*" which is the title of Bill's new book. After many years of research Bill has put together a fine book on the Colby papers. Bill is an author, collector and member of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table. **Bring a friend, neighbor and another Civil War buff to enjoy a fascinating subject and to support a member of Old Baldy.**

Letters from the Front

At the December meeting **Herb Kaufman** shared with us a fascinating portion of his collection of original letters from soldiers to their family members/loved ones. Herb has well over 70 original letters he has collected over the years. The letters contained stories from what the daily routines were in camp, the long marches to battles, the foods they ate and the deaths of comrades. Some were funny, serious and sad, but altogether they gave us a look into their army life.



Photo - Pat Caldwell

The President's Letter

Hi Everyone,
Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a nice restful holiday and now we are all ready to start a new year in 2004.

Old Baldy is starting out the New Year with a new editor to our newsletter. We welcome and thank member Don Wiles for taking on this new task and

wish him best of luck. I'm sure Don would be only too pleased to receive articles from our members too.

Our speaker program for the year 2004 once again looks fabulous thanks to **Mike Cavanaugh**. Hopefully as the CWLM undergoes a transition period we will still continue to have our home here and meet here as we always have.

This month we are proud to have Old Baldy member Bill Hughes as our speaker. His topic is also the subject of his new book, *The Civil War Papers of Lt. Colonel Newton T. Colby, NY Infantry*. Congratulations Bill, and we look forward to hearing your presentation.

Thanks to all of you Old Baldy will continue to be the terrific round table that it always has been!

Hope to see you all at the next meeting.

Nancy



Photo - Pat Caldwell

On Saturday, December 20, the anniversary of the passing of Civil War veteran and faithful soldier, Old Baldy, was remembered in a solemn ceremony at the Civil War Library & Museum. Dressed appropriately in black garments, Baldy's staunchest admirer, **Nancy Caldwell**, mourned Baldy while members of the staff and volunteers offered condolences.

Today in Civil War History

January 8, 1821 - Confederate General James Longstreet is born near Edgefield, South Carolina.

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Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers for Winter/Spring/Summer 2004

January 8 - Thursday

William E. Hughes

Author and member of Old Baldy CWRT
Topic: His new book *The Civil War Papers of Lt. Colonel Newton T. Colby, New York Infantry*

February 12 - Thursday

Bradley Gottfried

Author and Gettysburg historian
Topic: *The Roads to Gettysburg*

March 11 - Thursday

Robert Spraque

President, Brandywine Valley CWRT, lecturer
Topic: *The Day the War Began: 12 April, 1861*

April 8 - Thursday

Michael Dreese

Author, Gettysburg Historian
Topic: *Union and Confederate Battle Flags and Color Bearers at the Battle of Gettysburg*

May 5 - Wednesday **Special Program**

Gordon Rhea

Author
The Topic: *The Battle of Cold Harbor*

May 13 - Thursday

William M. Welsch

Author
Topic: *Samuel Cooper and the Headquarters Staff of the Army of Northern Virginia*

June 10 - Thursday

Edward Bonekemper

Author
Topic: *Was Ulysses Grant a Butcher?*

July 8 - Thursday

Nancy Caldwell

President Old Baldy CWRT
Topic: *Civil War Horses*

August 21 - Saturday

H. Wilson Greene

Executive Director of Pamplin Park, Author, Historian
Topic: *TBA*

Annual Fund Raising Dinner

Reservations Required

Radisson Hotel, Route One, Trevoise, PA

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, begin
at 7:30 PM at the

Civil War Library and Museum,
1805 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Questions to Mike Cavanaugh at 215.725.3602 or
chief96pbj@juno.com

Longstreet became one of the most successful generals in the Confederate Army, but after the war was a target of some of his comrades, who were searching for a scapegoat.

Longstreet grew up in Georgia and attended West Point, graduating 54th in a class of 62 in 1842. He was a close friend of Ulysses S. Grant, and served as best man in Grant's 1848 wedding to Julia Dent, Longstreet's fourth cousin. Longstreet fought in the Mexican War and was wounded at the Battle of Chapultepec. He served in the army until he resigned at the beginning of the Civil War, when he was named brigadier general in the Confederate Army.

Longstreet fought at the First Battle of Bull Run and within a year was commander of corps in the Army of Northern Virginia under General Robert E. Lee. Upon the death of General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson at the Battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863, Longstreet was considered the most effective corps commander in Lee's army. He served with Lee for the rest of the war—except for the fall of 1863, when he took his force to aid the Confederate effort in Tennessee.

Longstreet was severely wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness in May 1864, and he did not return to service for six months. He resumed service and fought with Lee until the surrender at Appomattox in April 1865. After the war, Longstreet engaged in a number of businesses and held several governmental posts, most notably U.S. Minister to Turkey. Although successful, he made two moves that greatly tarnished his reputation among his fellow southerners. He joined the despised Republican Party and publicly questioned Lee's strategy at the pivotal Battle of Gettysburg. His fellow officers considered these sins to be unforgivable, and former comrades such as Generals Jubal Early and John Gordon attacked Longstreet as a traitor. They asserted that, in fact, Longstreet was responsible for the errors that lost Gettysburg.

Longstreet outlived most of his comrades and detractors but died on January 2, 1904. His second wife, Helen Dortch, lived until 1962.

**Old Baldy
Civil War Round Table
of Philadelphia
1805 Pine Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
215.735.8196
Founded January 1977**

**President: Nancy Caldwell
Vice President: Pat Caldwell
Treasure: William George
Secretary: Unappointed**

**Annual Memberships
Students: \$12.50
Individuals: \$25.00
Families: \$35.00**

The Civil War Institute at Manor College Spring 2004 Schedule



Just a reminder that courses for The Civil War Institute will begin again in January 2004 at Manor College in Jenkintown. We have five courses planned for the spring semester. All classes will run from 6:30 till 8:30 pm. Most courses are Act 48 Approved.

Course Descriptions

Life of the Common Soldier - The common soldier of the Civil War marched the dusty and often muddy roads to fight in the bloodiest battles ever seen in the Western Hemisphere. Yet they were scarcely heard publicly in their own time. But here is an examination of how they lived, what they believed and why they left home to volunteer to fight, and how they fought and died. Individual deeds, joys and hardships were recorded in thousands of letters and diaries, and here is an opportunity to share their experiences. **Herb Kaufman** will be the instructor for this 6-week course, which is one of the core courses for the certification program. Classes are 6 Tuesdays from January 13 through February 17. \$70

The Civil War Overview - The Civil War Series was developed by the DVCWRT and is an overview of the events that led to the war, major battles and the after-effects that still impact our nation today. The war will be examined year by year. This is a 6-week program for all ages conducted by instructors who are experts on the subject. It is one you will not want to miss. Course runs for 6 Wednesdays January 21 through February 25. \$70

Franklin & Nashville - An angry Confederate General John Bell Hood, described by General Robert E. Lee as more Lion than Fox, sends his Army of Tennessee into seven futile charges that rival the famous one at Gettysburg against an entrenched Union army. Furious that his troops let Union soldiers escape at Spring Hill, Hood berates his generals and orders heroic assaults that eventually lead to the destruction of his generals and his army at Nashville. **Jerry Carrier** will be the instructor for this 3-week course on Tuesdays from March 9-23. \$40



Ulysses S. Grant - This course will examine Grant's early life, his war years and his presidency. It will look at his successes and failures, his war command decisions and what kind of president he was. Was he a man misunderstood and underrated? Do we fully appreciate him? Follow him from his early frontier life to his final battle to complete his personal memoirs. This course, conducted by **Barbara Goll**, will run 3 Wednesdays, March 10, 17 and 24. \$40

Petersburg - The Nine Month Siege - The siege of Petersburg began on June 9, 1864 and ended on April 3, 1865. It was the biggest and most costly siege ever to take place on North American soil. There were 170,000 soldiers involved, not to mention the thousands of civilians. This course will examine the strategies of Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee. It will help you understand the importance of this epic battle to the Civil War and to see how the remnants of that battle carried into the next century. **Mike Cavanaugh** will lead this course for 3 Thursdays, March 11, 18 and 25. \$40

The Civil War Institute at Manor College - Spring 2004 Schedule

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6 Thursdays - January 13 - February 17, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Herb Kaufman, Instructor \$70

The Civil War Overview - Core Course
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Members of Delaware Valley CWRT, Instructors \$70

Franklin & Nashville
3 Tuesdays - March 9, 16, and 23, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Jerry Carrier, Instructor \$40

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Mike Cavanaugh, Instructor \$40

Manor College
700 Fox Chase Road - Jenkintown, PA 19046
215-884-2218 Registration

What's News?

The only way you'll know what's happening is the Civil War today is
by reading

"The Civil War News"

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1805 Pine Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

