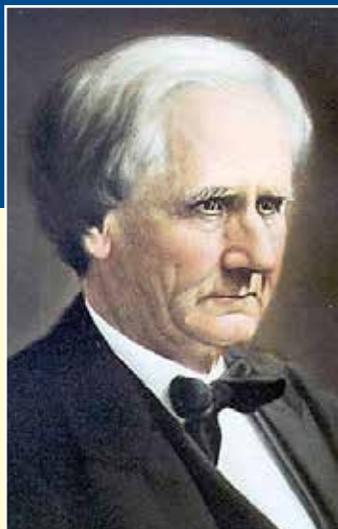


# Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

November 10, 2016

The Civil War: April 12, 1861 - May 9, 1865



## “Amiable Scoundrel - Simon Cameron, Lincoln’s Scandalous Secretary of War”

Join us at **7:15 PM** on **Thursday, November 10th**, at **Camden County College** in the **Connector Building, Room 101**. This month’s topic is **“Amiable Scoundrel - Simon Cameron, Lincoln’s Scandalous Secretary of War”**

From abject poverty to 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, Simon Cameron (1799–1889) was one of the nineteenth century’s most prominent political figures. In his wake, however, he left a series of questionable political and business dealings and, at the age of eighty, even a sex scandal.

Amiable Scoundrel puts Cameron’s actions into a larger historical context by demonstrating that many politicians of the time, including Abraham Lincoln, used similar tactics to win elections and advance their careers. This study is the fascinating story of Cameron’s life and an illuminating portrait of his times.

**Paul Kahan** is a lecturer at Ohlone College in Fremont, California. He is the author of *“Eastern State Penitentiary: A History”*, *“Seminary of Virtue: The Ideology and Practice of Inmate Reform at Eastern State Penitentiary, 1829-1971”*, *“The Bank War: Andrew Jackson,*

*Nicholas Biddle, and the Fight for American Finance”*, *“The Homestead Strike: Labor, Violence, and American Industry”*, and *“Amiable Scoundrel - Simon Cameron, Lincoln’s Scandalous Secretary of War”*.

Dr. Kahan earned a Ph.D. in U.S. history from Temple University where he worked with William W. Cutler, III. Prior to that, Dr. Kahan earned his M.A. in Modern American History & Literature from Drew University and B.A.s in history and English (with minors in medieval/Renaissance studies and music) from Alfred University.

### Notes from the President...

November already, where did the year go? Our hectic month which included the Book Award, Captain Drayton, Joe Wilson’s latest movie, the Symposium and the World Series is over. Now we can focus on the celebration of our 40th anniversary in January. It will be the culmination of the last two years and a post-holiday opportunity to be together those who came before us and those who have recently joined us on our journey. Welcome to our newest members who have been caught up in our enthusiasm, keep spreading the word about OBCWRT. We are now officially exempt under 501(c)(3). We are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, transfers and gifts. Donations are now also tax deductible.

At our October meeting, **Jack** and **Carol Lieberman** visited us to share the story of Captain Percival Drayton. It was an informative and entertaining presentation. We thanked them for joining us with some Old Baldy gifts. This month we welcome **Paul Kahan** to present a positive spin on the scandalous Union Secretary of War Simon Cameron. Bring a friend and join us for a lively Q&A session afterward. Remember to thank a veteran on the Veteran’s Day weekend.

“Remarkable Tales of the Civil War” was well attended and enjoyed by all. **Joe Wilson** with his **brother** and **Rich Mendoza** produced a superb product. It was well researched and filmed. If you did not get to see it, ask Joe when it will be shown again. **Hannibal Smith**, on the “A Team,” said “I love it when a plan comes together.” We witness that happen on October 22nd at our successful

*Continued on page 2*

Join us at **7:15 p.m.** on **Thursday, November 10th**, at **Camden County College, Blackwood Campus, Connector Building, Room 101.**

**Civil War Symposium.** The work and planning paid off as everyone present enjoyed the event. Read more about it and see pictures in this newsletter.

On November 15th at the **Del Val CWRT** meeting, I will be accepting their 2016 Merit Award. This is a reflection of the growth and success generated by the time, energy and effort you all have put into rebuilding our Round Table in the last five years. I have been privileged to lead the way with some guidance and drive, but it was the Board and members who have made it happen. I hope you are able to come to the Radisson in Trevoze at 7:30 to share this event that recognizes our Round Table.

The **Nominating Committee** will be announcing their slate of officers for the next term at this month's meeting. The floor will be open at the November and December meetings for additional nominations. The election will be at the December meeting. Consider getting involved in planning the future of our Round Table, as we have some open positions available.

As mentioned above our **40th Anniversary Luncheon** is on January 21st from 11:30-3:30 at the Adelpia Restaurant in Deptford. Tickets are \$37 each or two for \$70. We will enjoy a presentation of Civil War music by **Charlie Zahm**. There will be photos, stories and memories. Let us know how you will assist us in making this a grand celebration. Make sure you invite everyone you know to join us.

*Come to the Lamp Post Diner around 5:30 to have dinner with Paul Kahan on the 10th. If you are unable to join us at the meeting, please have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving with your families. We have much to be thankful for this year. Travel safe.*

*Rich Jankowski, President*

## Today in Civil War History

### 1861 Sunday, November 10

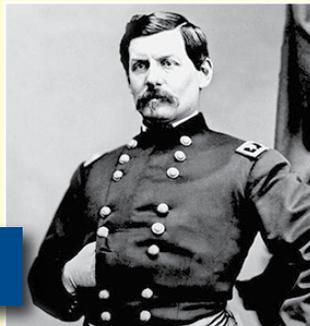
#### Eastern Theater

In a skirmish on the Guyandot River in western Virginia, recruits of the 9th West Virginia Regiment are attacked by rebels, and in the ensuing fight lose seven dead and 20 wounded to a Confederate loss of three killed and 10 wounded. There is a second, smaller action in western Virginia at Gauley Bridge.

### 1862 Monday, November 10

#### Eastern Theater

McClellan takes leave of the army which he has in large part created. He is well-liked by the troops and many are saddened by his departure.



**Major General  
George Brinton McClellan**

### 1863 Tuesday, November 10

#### Eastern Theater

Fort Sumter withstands its third consecutive day of bombardment from the Union batteries outside Charleston. The federal cannon fire nearly 600 rounds a day at the shattered fort.



**Fort Sumter**

### 1864 Thursday, November 10

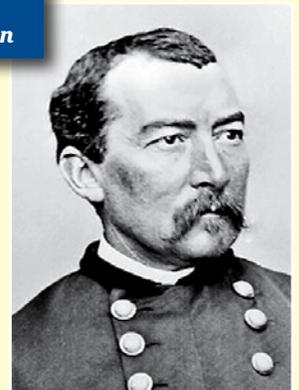
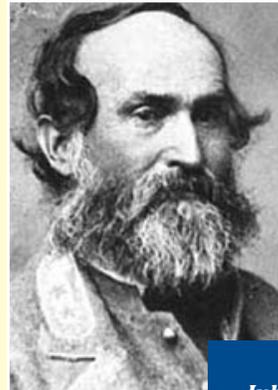
#### Eastern Theater

Jubal Early leads the remnant of his command from New Market toward Sheridan's forces in the Shenandoah, but he lacks the strength to offer effective opposition.

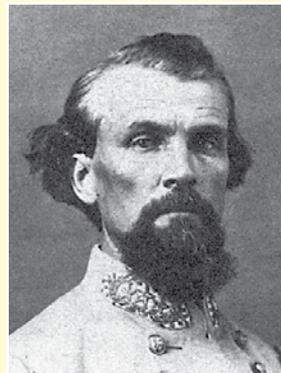
#### Western Theater

Bedford Forrest is back at Corinth, Mississippi, heading over to join Hood for the invasion of Tennessee.

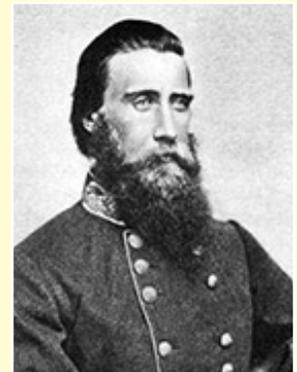
**Major General  
Philip Henry Sheridan**



**Major General  
Jubal Anderson Early**



**Lieutenant General  
Nathan Bedford Forrest**



**Lieutenant General  
John Bell Hood**

**WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>**

## A Thank You from Bob Russo

At our October Membership Meeting I informed our members that I would not seek re-election as Vice President of Old Baldy Civil War Round Table. This was a very difficult decision for me and it leaves me quite conflicted. Unfortunately, overwhelming work requirements, a couple family health issues, and simply not enough hours in the day forces my hand on this. I look forward to remaining a member and jumping in to help wherever and whenever I can. One important aspect of my decision is that our President Rich Jankowski, our Board of Directors and our members deserve a better commitment from a Vice President than I can give at this time. It's never been in my nature to do anything halfway and I can't start now.

I walk away from my representative responsibility with great respect for Rich's leadership and his incredible enthusiasm, dedication and commitment to Old Baldy Civil War Round Table. I don't know where or how he finds the time or the energy to do what he does but he seems to give every extra second he has to the Round Table. He is the measuring stick in that regard and few people could ever measure up.

Rich is not alone in his commitment. Every time I read a volunteer sign-up sheet, I see the names of fellow Board members, Harry Jenkins, Frank Barletta, Kathy Clark and Dave Gilson. Along with that both Herb Kaufman our Treasurer and Bill Hughes our Secretary have given many years of commitment and dedication as officers. I should add that both Harry and Herb drive a far distance to visit and volunteer with us. Last but not least, Don Wiles works far beyond any reasonable expectation to create one of the most fantastic newsletters that any organization distributes. Beyond that Don has handled our photography and other graphics in expert

fashion. I've gained incredible respect and admiration for all of these people, far beyond just sharing a spot on our Board of Directors. I consider them friends and I expect to continue to support them and the organization into the future. I feel the same way about many of our members!

I would be remiss if I didn't thank our long term and newer members who've stepped up to give of themselves in some volunteer capacity with Old Baldy. This is very special and very much needed. I will not mention names here because I will surely miss someone and that will cause great angst for me. Please know that the organization and our leaders can always use your help. At our recent weekend at the Mullica Hill Civil War Re-enactment, we had a good mix of long term and newer members signed-up to help. Sadly that weekend was just about a complete washout but your willingness to help out was greatly appreciated. I hope everyone can find time in the future to sign up to help at some level when volunteers are needed. This is critical since the strength of any organization is in its membership! That was apparent with the great work done by the Michael Cavanaugh Book Award Committee and again with the work a few members put in with our October Symposium. To the highest degree every aspect of that event confirmed the incredible planning and coordination that took place, and the execution of the plan was flawless.

From the heart, I thank you for your confidence in me and for the respect that I always felt from everyone who spoke with me. On the couple contentious issues, I always felt respected and always experienced an outcome that made the organization stronger and healthier. As I walk away from my leadership role, I find it extremely gratifying that the organization is fiscally sound, membership strong, always growing and continuing the effort to educate fellow citizens on the Civil War era! It's been an honor and a privilege to serve and represent you! My little piece of the world is a better place because we crossed paths!

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## Old Baldy Civil War Round Table Symposium... 2016

The **New Jersey in the Civil War Symposium** on October 22nd was a great day for our Round Table. Thank you to everyone who worked to bring our plan to fruition. Everyone in attendance, including attendees, exhibitors, presenters, our members and the staff at the College, rated it as a success. Special thanks to **Harry Jenkins** and **Don Wiles** for the professional program book they created for the event. Thanks to **Kim Daly** for handling the registration and **Frank Barletta** for organizing the selection of exhibitors our guest were able to visit. Thanks to all who provided guidance, support, advice and a steadying hand to keep the project on track. We are conducting a survey to get feedback to improve our next attempt. We asked several of our guests to write some comments on the conference and we have included them below. With the sponsorships ads and

raffle sales for the "Two Soldiers" painting the Round Table came out ahead on the day. Congratulations to our own **Marty Wilensky** on winning the painting. If you missed working on this one, get on board for the next Symposium in October 2018. If you were unable to attend, please talk to someone who was there to hear more about it. Enjoy the comments of some folks who experienced the day.

**Nancy Bowker · Paula Gidjunis · Lynn Cavill**

A sparkle and snap of excitement was in the atmosphere at the scene of the symposium on Oct. 22 at spacious Camden County College. The line-up of speakers was impressive and the variety of topics was a good blend to keep interest high throughout the day.

The presentation on women in the Civil War by Professor Giesberg, provided a thought provoking look into the realities of women's lives on the home front; including working in arsenals and sometimes becoming victims of explosions. This resonated, for my grandfather worked at Frankford Arsenal during World War I. While making bullets, half his thumb was blown off. His regret was he couldn't play the 5 string banjo. But he played the 4 string and marched with Kensington in the Mummer's Parade.



The next talk on Civil War Ballooning by Dr. Jim Green soared with fascinating facts. It also gave a new respect for the work and daring involved in inflating and going up in the balloons. It was intriguing to hear profiles of several aeronauts and their jockeying to be the top cat in this dangerous fledgling enterprise of air travel. The noon break was enhanced by the beautiful voices of the Audubon High School Concert Choir. What a pleasant accompaniment to a lovely lunch.



Afterwards, Dr. Anthony Waskie, esteemed president of the General Meade Society, spoke on Philadelphia's role in the conflict; the topic of his latest excellent book. The concept became crystal clear that Philadelphia was a hotbed of military activity, manufacture and a pulsing patriotism and drive to serve and defend the Union.



Dr. David Martin then discussed an array of famous, infamous and little known generals associated with the Garden State. He brought to light several life stories, ranging from good generals like George Bayard and Phil Kearny; to the blatantly bad like Judson Kilpatrick, who wasted the lives of so many cavalymen and



their brave horses. Dr. Martin, and all the presenters, are respected throughout the Civil War community for their scholarship. They are of the highest echelon and generous to share their knowledge.

The entire day was a refreshing delight of engaging wit, and good fellowship among attendees. Old Baldy Roundtable, **Huzzah!**

**Nancy Bowker**

Kudos to all those involved with the "New Jersey in the Civil War" Symposium. The hard work of Old Baldy CWRT members was obvious in the organization and well-run event. The speakers were excellent, discussing a variety of topics and providing new perspectives on them. The location at the Connector Building of the Blackwood Campus of Camden County College was excellent. It is a modern facility with ample space for the event.

Dr. Judith Giesberg, a professor of history at Villanova University and author of five books spoke on the women in the North who helped the Union cause. Of special interest was her discussion of the dangers women endured working in factories that supplied the war effort. Dr. James L. Green gave a unique presentation on Civil War Ballooning. A fascinating topic that is overlooked, we came away with different perspective on the battles where the balloons were used.

Dr. Anthony Waskie spoke on Philadelphia: Arsenal of Defense. Having written a book on Philadelphia in the Civil War, we have heard his presentation previously, but always learn something new. Finally, Dr. David Martin presented information on a variety of New Jersey Generals, good and bad, famous and not so.

Another highlight and surprise of the event was a lunchtime concert given by the Audubon High School Concert Choir. The performance of Civil War era music was originally developed to raise funds for the Civil War Trust. They just did not learn the songs, but history behind the music. The attendees of the symposium were duly impressed with the choir and the entire event.

**Paula Gidjunis**



What a great day! I had never thought before about Northern women sewing in armories, sometimes under dangerous conditions, to support their families, learned how balloons were used, and not used, during the war, was left breathless after Anthony Waskie's speedily drawn picture of Philly during the war, and was overwhelmed, yet again, by the number of Generals in the War—this time only those connected to NJ.

I especially enjoyed the Exhibitors. Good planning gave us plenty of time to visit all the tables during breaks. I became interested in Civil War history when I was researching the genealogy of my family. This led to a very interesting conversation with the man from Burlington County Historical Society. He gave me some new insights on researching Quaker roots. Good job Frank!

**Lynn Cavill**

## **The Massacre and Burning of Guyandotte**

### **Cabell County, West Virginia in the American Civil War**

#### **The Massacre and Burning of Guyandotte**

**By Matt Prochnow**

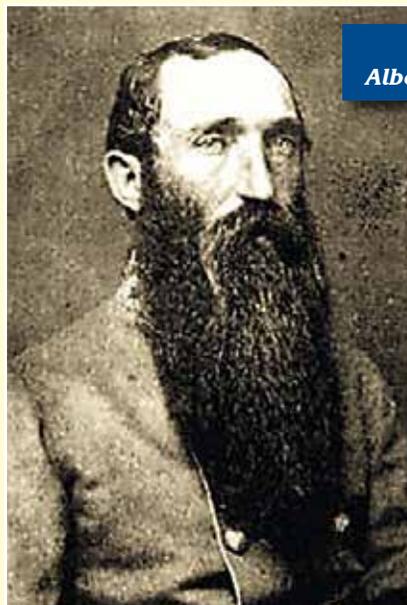
**Wheeling Daily Intelligencer, 13 November 1861**

Guyandotte...has always had the reputation of being the "ornaryest" place on the Ohio River. ... Major Whaley and his one hundred and fifty soldiers were about the only decent, honest men who had ever staid in Guyandotte over night."

During the American Civil War from 1861-1865, West Virginia flung aside both its status as "western Virginia" and its membership to the Confederate States of America, and joined President Abraham Lincoln and the northern Union states. Though considerable research has been done on the Wheeling area, which indeed was the region that drove West Virginia's statehood movement, this paper will explore the roles and perspectives of Cabell County residents in the Civil War era. Specifically, I will concentrate on the aberrant opinions and actions of Guyandotte residents. Apart from the more broad research topics tackled by Jack L. Dickinson and Joe Geiger, little has been written specifically about Guyandotte.

The southern issue of secession from the United States grew in the 1850s, culminating for Virginia on April 17, 1861 with the decision to secede. The majority of counties in the western third of the state—which would later become West Virginia—voted no to secession in the statewide referendum. According to West Virginia state historian Virgil A. Lewis, the "mountain people...pledged undying attachment" to the Federal Republic and despised secession.

In keeping with that feeling, 29 of the 38 delegates from the counties which would become West Virginia, including Cabell County representative William McComas, voted against secession. In those counties, meetings and conferences were almost immediately called to address the idea of creating a new state, separate from Virginia and a part of the Union. McComas's vote, however, could have gone either way. Cabell County essentially wished to remain included in the United States, but there were pockets of strong southern sympathy peppered throughout the county. From the journals of his grandfather Waitman T. Willey, an essential figure in West Virginia's statehood movement, William P. Willey argues that the "mountain people" had



**Colonel  
Albert Gallatin Jenkins**

ulterior motivation for opposing Virginia's secession from the United States; the people on opposing sides of the Alleghenies had little in common and no relationship whatsoever. Western Virginia was known to the tidewater aristocrats as "the peasantry of the West."

It was in this climate that the Civil War and West Virginia's statehood movement

simultaneously occurred. Therefore, it can be understood that confusion ensued—the state they had forever called their own was forsaking its nation, and their counties were abandoning that state. Brother would fight against brother, and father against son. Nowhere was an area less confused, though, than Guyandotte, West Virginia.

A small, independent Ohio River community in Cabell County, Guyandotte is an interesting case and one of the aforementioned pockets of resistance to West Virginia's northern leaning. Though a westernmost community in western Virginia, Guyandotte was the only real spot in Cabell County which expressed where consistent and solid Confederate support. "The first secession flag along the Ohio River" was raised there, and since that time Guyandotte had been renowned "as a nest of outlaws, horse thieves and counterfeiters." Cabell County, like much of what would become West Virginia, voted against secession from the United States, but Guyandotte voted for the split.

When West Virginia was vying for statehood and a chance to join the Union just a few years later, Guyandotte went against its county again and voted to remain a part of Virginia. It was a hotbed of Confederate sympathy, and its citizens played a large role in the massacre of its Union regiment and their town's subsequent destruction. Historian Joe Geiger has said that it was a chance to raise morale of Jenkins' troops, but it is more closely related to the small-town vindictiveness of the Confederate breeding ground of Guyandotte than military necessity.

In early 1857, just a few years before the secession movement in Virginia and the rest of the South, Massachusetts Congressman Eli Thayer established Ceredo in Wayne County, just a few miles from Guyandotte. Many in the area saw Thayer's community as an invasion and an attempt to begin abolishing slavery though he denied any such accusation. Around July 21, Congressman Albert Gallatin Jenkins, who would later become a Brigadier General for the Confederate States of America, exchanged heated words with Thayer regarding the institution of slavery and his "abolitionist colony." A month later on August 26, Jenkins helped Guyandotte pass a resolution pledging to keep their county loyal to Virginia.

In 1860, the year Lincoln was elected president, Guyandotte established a pro-Confederate militia called the "Border Rangers," a counterpart to the 5th Virginia (Union) Cavalry in Ceredo. Led by Jenkins, that company came to be known as the 8th Virginia Cavalry, and fought several battles against Union troops—including a raid on Guyandotte which would later be known as "the massacre of the 9th Infantry."

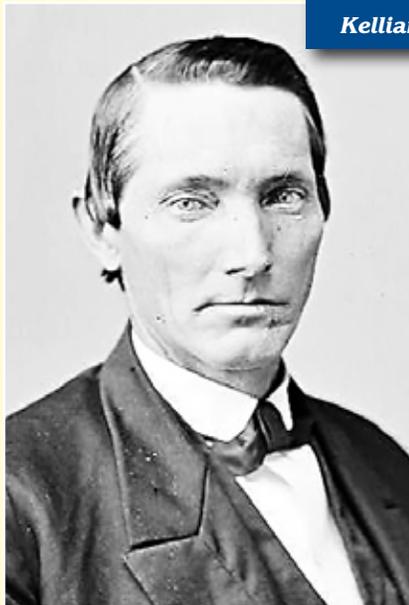
That same 9th Infantry (Union) had been recruited from Lawrence County, Ohio, Eastern Kentucky, and Cabell County by Union Major Kellian V. Whaley to defend the area from potential Confederate attacks. A Union force, this one commanded by Colonel John Ziegler, was already stationed at Ceredo, and would remain there for the entire war. Whaley's approximately 150 recruits, a figure disputed by eyewitness J. H. Rouse, who wrote that the number was closer to 130, began training at Guyandotte in late October 1861, but the process did not start smoothly—nearly one third of his men either took a leave of absence or fell sick within three weeks. The aforementioned raid on the encampment happened just then—when the new Union regiment was at its weakest. To further complicate the Union defense, approximately seventy men were cut off from their quarters and weapons by the suddenness of the onslaught.

According to Joe Geiger, the raid on Guyandotte was essentially to raise morale among Jenkins's troops, who also had been recruited from the area. Jenkins himself had a home in Green Bottom, located about 11 miles upriver from Guyandotte, and the attack was a homecoming for him as well as for his men. However, ridding their own hometown of Union men must have made the raid all the more pleasant for them, and that is exactly what they proceeded to do on November 10, 1861.

Because the training camp was so new, it was disorganized and had few men ready to staff its defenses. When Jenkins and his nearly 500 Confederate forces arrived, Whaley and his men were unprepared and unaware—no scouts had been sent out. A bloodbath ensued. Many of the green Union troops attempted to flee across the suspension bridge spanning the Guyandotte River, but Confederate troops mowed them down. Survivors who jumped off the bridge were captured below. The battle was short lived; save for the ten to twelve dead and a few escapees, Whaley and about one hundred men were captured and marched out of Guyandotte the next day.

The Point Pleasant Register Weekly reported on November 15 that the defeat of Whaley's regiment was facilitated by the aid of Guyandotte citizens, a fact overlooked by Geiger. Though the Register Weekly is pointedly prejudiced, it is indubitably rooted in some degree of truth because eyewitness J.H. Rouse, a druggist who was also a Commissioner of the Federal Court, concurs. It is impossible to ascertain whether Guyandotte secessionists and the 8th Virginia Cavalry had been in close contact, but after the massacre had settled, the Confederate troops were invited to dine on "rich viands which appeared to have been previously prepared and preserved for the occasion." According to the Register Weekly, Union troops had been invited to Sunday dinner in many of the same homes that same evening; during the meal, at approximately 8 P.M., the Confederates attacked. The homes hosting Union men were marked, and some of the dining soldiers were killed before they could take up

Major  
Kellian Van Rensselaer Whaley



arms. It is even written that the residents personally fought against

the Union men, though no other source corroborated this statement.

This evidence is arguable, but Rouse's firsthand account of the post-raid events is more believable and substantial. As did the Register Weekly, he writes that the "secesh" opened their homes to the rebel soldiers and shared a meal for them before they went on their way. Over dinner, many of the rebel sympathizers in Guyandotte pointed out the Unionists among them. Rouse, a passionate Union man, implicated the notoriously Confederate Ricketts family as a leading culprit of this divulgence of semi-secret information. The Confederates gathered up their booty and prisoners early the next morning, and hastily marched out of town. Rouse's manuscript piercingly pictures the prisoners'

march, including details of their captors' increase in speed as Ziegler's Union forces could be heard at Guyandotte. Word had reached Ceredo that the Confederates had raided the Union camp at Guyandotte, and revenge was quick.

The 5th Virginia Cavalry (Union) arrived from Ceredo with the intention of battling the Confederate forces, who they expected to return to further loot the town. Apparently, though, they could not wait, and began to set fire to certain Guyandotte homes. No evidence remains to determine how the burning began—by order or by simple frustration at missing the Confederate contingent—but the blaze started at known secessionists' homes, and much of the downtown area followed. The burning was later defended as an act of

"military necessity," but it was likely a mission of revenge. Ceredo was a colony of implanted northerners and already had a contentious history with Guyandotte. The same techniques of rumor and hearsay the Confederates had used to root out Unionists were employed by Ziegler's men on November 11, and some houses of Union sympathizers were fired along with those of secessionists like the Ricketts family.

This strategy was inevitable, however, due to the known Confederate sentiment which was seemingly inherent in

Guyandotte residents. It would have been nearly impossible and definitely risky for Union soldiers to trust members of that community to reveal their partiality in the Civil War, especially after they had just aided a Confederate contingent. Alas, though there were indeed some Union sympathizers living in Guyandotte, like J. H. Rouse, some of their shops and homes were burned as well. The general rebel attitude and like actions of Guyandotte citizens not only allowed the massacre of the 9th (Union) Infantry, but also contributed to the ensuing destruction of their hometown.



## Walt Whitman's House

The Walt Whitman House is located at 330 Mickie Boulevard, Camden, New Jersey. Access is via Route 30 in Camden.

This two-story frame townhouse is the only home Walt Whitman, known as America's "Good Gray

Poet", ever owned. He purchased the property in 1884 for \$1,750. The house contains period furnishings, some owned by Whitman, as well as numerous personal artifacts and published works belonging to the poet.

Whitman was born to Walter and Louisa Whitman on March 31, 1819 in Westhills, Long Island. The family moved to Brooklyn in 1824 and at age 11, Whitman left school and went to work. His jobs included that of errand-boy for a doctor and a lawyer. He also apprenticed as a printer. While in the employ of the two latter jobs, Walt, with the help of his employers, perfected his writing technique. He went from printing to school teaching, then reporting for newspapers and writing editorials and magazine articles.

During the Civil War (1861-1865), he served as a volunteer in the army hospitals in Washington where he did clerical work for the government and worked on his war journals and poems.

In 1873, Walt came to Camden to visit his ailing mother who was staying, with Colonel George Whitman, Walt's younger brother. Whitman's mother died on May 23, 1873 and Walt continued to live with his brother and family, paying room and board, until he purchased his home on Mickle Street 11 years later.

Possessing very little personal property, Whitman arranged for the previous owners to remain in the house, thus providing him with furnishings and meals. The arrangement lasted barely a year.

Walt subsequently asked an acquaintance, Mrs. Mary O. Davis, the widow of a sea captain, to move into his home where she could live rent free and receive a small stipend for keeping house for him. She was to bring her furniture. Mrs. Davis accepted Whitman's offer and remained with him until his death on March 26, 1892.

Whitman was buried in Harleigh Cemetery, Camden, in a burial lot of his own selection made possible by a gift of the property from the Harleigh Cemetery Association two years earlier. He designed the family vault there, the contract for which, bearing his signature, is on display at the poet's home. In keeping with his lifelong devotion to his family, the tomb in Harleigh Cemetery holds the remains of most of its members: Louisa Van Veslor Whitman (mother), Walter Whitman (father), George Whitman (brother), Louisa Whitman (George's wife), Hannah Whitman Hyde (sister), Edward Whitman (brother) and Walt himself.

Whitman's fame and recognition as a major literary figure of the 19th century eluded him for most of his life. Perhaps best known for his work, *Leaves of Grass*, Whitman wrote numerous other works including *Specimen Days In America*, *The Wound Dresser*, and the poems, "Oh Captain, My Captain", and "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd". Today, Whitman's prose and poetry are widely acclaimed and considered a significant part of American literature.



The Whitman Family Vault, Harleigh Cemetery, Camden



The Whitman House  
328 Mickle Street  
Camden

## Some Short Shots

### ***The Battle of Santa Rosa***

California entered the Union in 1850. Although most of the people in the state were recent immigrants from the North, there were substantial numbers of Southerners as well. During the “Secession Winter” of 1860-1861 a number of secessionist outbreaks in various parts of the state were relatively easily put down by the numerous Unionists.

In some areas an uneasy peace prevailed between the two groups. For example, about fifty miles north of San Francisco were the villages of Santa Rosa and Petaluma, both first settled in the 1850s, and about twenty miles apart. Apparently Petaluma had been settled mostly by northerners, while Santa Rosa had been settled mostly by southerners, with Missourians dominating.

The local press in Santa Rosa was very pro-Confederate, and the people of Petaluma organized a militia company, “The Emmett Rifles,” in case the Santa Rosans gave any trouble. An uneasy peace prevailed between the two communities for most of the war, marred by occasional petty harassment by one side or the other. According to legend the bell in the pro-Unionist Baptist Church in Petaluma, which was rung regularly to celebrate Federal victories, was smashed one night in a covert raid by some Southern sympathizers. Then came news of the assassination of President Lincoln. What apparently happened then comes down to us by a somewhat garbled oral tradition. Enraged over the murder of the president, the citizens of Petaluma decided to do something about it. Led by Major James Armstrong, the Emmett Rifles mounted up and galloped off—or, according to different version of the tale, formed ranks and started marching—northward along the stage road, intent on inflicting harm upon the “nest of Copperheads” in Santa Rosa.

About half way to Santa Rosa the Emmett Rifles came upon a large road-side inn, the Stony Point Road Tavern or perhaps the Washoe House, near the modern town of Cotati. Tired, hot, and thirsty, the men of the Emmett Rifles decided to stop for a cold beer. And then they had another, and apparently another on top of that. Soon not only was their thirst quenched, but so too was their ardor to beat upon the Secessionists. And so they never did get back on the march toward Santa Rosa, but rather slowly drifted homeward.

### ***The Ship that was Commissioned After it Sank***

The success of the innovative USS Monitor in her fight with the CSS Virginia at Hampton Roads in March 1862 led the U.S. Navy to order additional vessels on the same basic pattern, including ten units of the Passaic Class. These were about twice the size of the original Monitor (nearly 1,900 tons to her almost 1,000), better protected and better ventilated. Laid down in the spring and summer of 1862, the ten ships were built quickly, and were all launched by April 1863. All, that is, save one. When the USS Camanche, built in Jersey City, New Jersey, was ready to be launched,

she was disassembled on the shipway and put aboard the transport Aquila for shipment to San Francisco. There she was to be reassembled and put into service protecting the West Coast from the threat of Confederate raiders. And so while her sisters gained some distinction supporting Union operations against the Confederacy, Camanche undertook the long, tedious, and dangerous voyage around Cape Horn. Aquila arrived at San Francisco in November 1863. She had taken a considerable pounding during her 18,000 mile voyage from Jersey City to California. As a result, shortly after she arrived, and before her precious cargo could be off-loaded, Aquila foundered in San Francisco Bay. A massive salvage job ensued. Gradually the disassembled sections of Camanche were brought to the surface. Section by section the pieces of the ship were slowly fished out of the water. Camanche was reassembled on a shipway, and on November 14, 1864, was launched, more than two years later than any of her sisters. Camanche was commissioned on May 24, 1865, some eighteen months after she had sunk.

### ***“You Sailors Don’t Know Anything About A Horse”***

Late in March 1865, Lincoln paid a visit to the Army of the Potomac, which was then closely investing Petersburg and Richmond. He spent several days with the army, and then, at the invitation of Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter, went aboard the latter’s flagship, the USS Malvern, in order to see what the fleet was doing.

On April 2 Lincoln learned that the Army of Northern Virginia had evacuated Richmond and Petersburg. Lincoln expressed the desire to visit both places. At 9:00 a.m. the president’s party landed at City Point and rode by train to Patrick Station. Captain Robert Lincoln met them at the station with horses for his father and younger brother Tad. But no one had thought to provide a mount for Porter. A quick search located a horse for the admiral. It was a nag, “a hard trotter, and a terrible stumbler.” Now Porter loved to ride, and appreciated fine horseflesh. In fact, while commanding a squadron on the Mississippi earlier in the war, he had had a stable installed in his flagship, and a special ramp built, so that he could go for a gallop ashore whenever the mood struck him. So imagine everyone’s surprise when, upon reaching Petersburg, Porter offered to buy the beast. Lincoln tried to discourage Porter, observing that the horse was “fourteen years old if he’s a day. . .spavined, and has only one eye. What do you want with him? You sailors don’t know anything about a horse.” Porter, who had a sense of humor that easily matched Lincoln’s, promptly replied, “I want to buy it and shoot it, so no one else will ever ride it again.” At this Lincoln chuckled, saying, “it was the best reason he had ever heard for buying a horse.”

### ***Welcome... to the New Recruits***

***Robert D. Lynch  
Mark Castaldi  
Gay Bain  
Bill Pacello***



## October 13th Meeting

### "Captain Percival Drayton, United States Navy"

At our meeting last month Captain Percival Drayton and Sarah Josepha Hale visited us from their graves at Laurel Hill Cemetery through the personage of Jack and Carol Lieberman. Jack shared the story of Percy's naval career from 1827 through the Civil War. He was stationed at the

Philadelphia Navy Yard when the War started. He was given command of the USS Pocahontas and took part in the Port Royal action in November 1861. During this battle he fired on Confederate troops under command of his brother Thomas. Later in the War he served as a Captain in Admiral Farragut's Squadron and was in command as the fleet attacked Mobile Bay. He died in Washington of a twisted bowl obstruction and was later re-interred in Laurel Hill Cemetery. The USS Drayton was named after Percival. All in attendance enjoyed the informative presentation.



Jack and Carol Lieberman



## Return to Iwo Jima Print

The drawing is a pen and ink rendering of the flag-raising on Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima, Japan, on February 23, 1945, during the battle for Iwo Jima.

A framed limited edition (1/25) Gyclee print on 100% Acid Free conservator stock, glass is Ultra Violet and Glare-Free.

Signatures include: last surviving Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams from the battle; Samuel Holiday, a Navajo Code Talker; a Corpsman; Mike "Iron Mike" Mervosh, a Marine Corps legend, the non-commissioned officer's club on Camp Pendleton MCB is named after him- all the signatures are veterans of the battle.

Also included is a portion of Black Sand from the invasion Beach area.

Tickets for the print drawing are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00  
Contact information:

Rich Jankowski - Phone: 856-427-6966  
jediwarrior11@verizon.net

Mail Ticket Sales

Bob Russo - 856-424-2155  
15 Lakeview  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

RJRUSO58@yahoo.com

Drawing will be held at the  
40th Anniversary Luncheon - January 2017.





# On the Trail with Old Baldy

Thursday,  
January 12, 2017

For our next Round Table Discussion Night, we invite members to present an interesting Historical Site that you've visited. Plan to show the history, pictures, learnings, etc. Share your interests and enlighten us with your experience!

To ensure the best use of everyone's time, participation in this month's program will be limited to 3 topics of about 15 minutes each. The participation schedule will be confirmed no later than our December 8th Round Table meeting.

If you would like to share your historical travel experience, please contact:

Dave  
ddsghh@comcast.net  
or  
Harry hj3bama@verizon.net

## 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

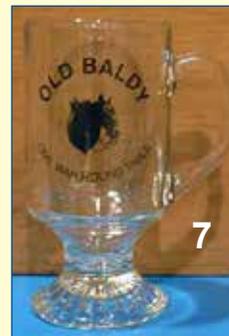
Lightweight Cotton Sandwich Bill Cap 100% Brushed Cotton;  
Mid Profile Color: Navy/White or Stone/Navy  
Adjustable Closure

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.

Items are non-returnable due to customization, please contact Jeanne Reith if you have questions on sizing.

Jeanne Reith Tuttle Marketing Services 1224 Gail Road West Chester, PA 19380 jeanne@tuttlemarketing.com 610-430-7432

<https://tuttlemarketing.com/store/products/old-baldy-civil-war-round-table-651>

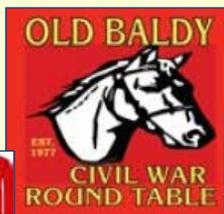


### 7 - Irish Fluted Glass - \$7.00

Can be used with either Cold or Hot Liquids



Logo



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

## Some Up Coming Events

### Friday, November 11; 10am

Veterans Parade beginning at The Promenade, Pearl Blvd., Burlington City, NJ. The parade begins at High and Pearl Streets and continues to the American Legion Post 79. For information: email bevs@burlingtonnj.us or 609-386-4070. Free: [www.tourburlington.org](http://www.tourburlington.org)

### Friday, November 11; 1:30pm

Princeton Battlefield, 500 Mercer St., Princeton, NJ: Meet at the Colonnade to honor the first Marine to die in battle and those who fell during the American Revolution. For information: [www.theprincetonbattlefieldsociety.org](http://www.theprincetonbattlefieldsociety.org) or 609-389-5657: Free. Email: [www.princetonbattlefieldsocinfo@gmail.com](mailto:www.princetonbattlefieldsocinfo@gmail.com)

### Friday, November 11; 11 am

Annual Wreath ceremony at the NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation, 1 Memorial Lane, Holmdel, NJ. For information: [www.njvvmf.org](http://www.njvvmf.org) or 732-335-0033: Free

### Saturday, November 12; 8pm

The Long Beach Island Historical Museum, 129 Engleside Ave., Beach haven, NJ. Soldiers share their personal journey of a very public war in the showing of this documentary. \$5/nonmember; members/free. Information: [liffinfo@gmail.com](mailto:liffinfo@gmail.com) or 571-212-3292. [www.lighthousefilmfestival.org](http://www.lighthousefilmfestival.org)

### Saturday, November 12; 10am

In celebration of the 98th Anniversary of Armistice Day, the Historical Society of Princeton is presenting a walking tour of the Early Life of Woodrow Wilson. Tour starts outside Bainbridge House, 158 Nassau St., Princeton, NJ. \$10/person: [www.princetonhistory.org](http://www.princetonhistory.org)

### Saturday, November 12; 2pm

"To Begin the World Over Again: The Life of Thomas Paine" film-screening at the American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark, Haledon, NJ, 83 Norwood St., Haledon, NJ. Tours of the museum will be available. Information: [www.labor-museum.net](http://www.labor-museum.net): 973-595-7953 or email [labormuseum@aol.com](mailto:labormuseum@aol.com). The museum is open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm; tours are offered Wednesday-Saturday, 1pm-4pm

### Saturday, November 12; noon-3pm

History comes alive at Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave., Union, NJ 07083. Join President Theodore Roosevelt as he shares stories of his and what it was like during his White House years. Enjoy a luncheon based upon Roosevelt's favorite food; immediately following a tour of the Liberty Hall Museum. \$55/person; reservations by November 5. Information call 908-527-0400; [libertyhall@kean.edu](mailto:libertyhall@kean.edu); [www.kean.edu/libertyhall](http://www.kean.edu/libertyhall)

### Sunday, November 13; 2pm

Author Joanne Rajoppi will present a program based on her book "New Brunswick and the Civil War". Sponsored by the Heritage Trail Assoc., Van Horne House, 941 East Main St., Bridgewater, NJ. Free, registration requested at [www.heritagetrail.org](http://www.heritagetrail.org)

### Sunday, November 13; 2pm-5:30pm

Washington Crossing Park Association presents "The Occupation of Trenton" by Larry Kidder who will present his research on Trenton. \$10/donation nonmembers. Union Fire Company Hall, Titusville, NJ. Preregister by writing to [wrmarsch@optimun.net](mailto:wrmarsch@optimun.net) or [www.washingtoncrossingparkassociation.com](http://www.washingtoncrossingparkassociation.com)

### Sunday, November 13; 1pm

The Roebling Museum, 100 Second Ave., Roebling, NJ 08554 launches a series of National Park Service Walking Tours of the village of Roebling, NJ. \$15/person includes admission to the museum: register online at [www.roeblingmuseum.org](http://www.roeblingmuseum.org) or call 609-499-7200

### Friday, November 18; 6:30pm-9:30pm

Meade Society Co-sponsor Event; The Gettysburg Heritage Center, 297 Steinwehr Ave., Gettysburg, PA 17325. "Gettysburg: The

Second Day; Excelling Under Fire": reflections of an engineer, educator and lawyer General Andrew A. Humphreys; Col. Joshua Chamberlain; and Lt. Col. William B. Wooster. Reflect on their personal histories and what led them to play key roles on the second day of the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2: The Peach Orchard, little round top, and Culp's Hill. Contact: [www.gettysburg-museum.com](http://www.gettysburg-museum.com) or Stephanie Lightner at 717-334-6245: [slightner@gettysburgmuseum.com](mailto:slightner@gettysburgmuseum.com)

### Friday and Saturday, November 18-19

NJ Forum 2016. College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ: Changing Attitudes Toward Preserving History and the Environment: A Forum Inspired by the National Park Service Centennial. The event will explore other aspects of the state's rich and diverse history. Two tours of historic Morristown National Historic Park November 18th: drive-by history tour, curatorial behind-the-scenes tour. Reception and Ford Mansion open house tour at 5pm. Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author Dan Fagin will offer the 2016 NJ Forum keynote address on a day filled with informative panels and discussions.

To register for any courses offered by the Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility Camden County College [www.camdencc.edu/civiccen](http://www.camdencc.edu/civiccen) or call 856-227-7200, ext. 4333. Mini-courses are \$25/course or \$50/yearly membership, unlimited classes.

Camden County College-CCLR Office,  
PO Box 200,  
Blackwood, NJ 08012

## Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2016

### November 10 – Thursday

"Amiable Scoundrel: Lincoln's Scandalous Secretary of War - Simon Cameron"

Paul Kahan

(Historian)

### December 8 – Thursday

"The Myth of the Lost Cause"

Edward Bonekemper

(Author, Historian)

### Questions to

Dave Gilson - 856-547-8130 - [ddsghh@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net)  
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