Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

August 9, 2018

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

"How the US Navy Won the Civil War"

WEADC'S

Special presentation via Skype

Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, August 9th, at Camden County College in the Madison Hall, Room 210. This month's topic is *"How the US Navy Won the Civil War"*

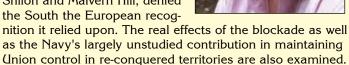
"How the US Navy Won

the Civil War" presents period evidence of the far more

critical role played by the Navy in the course of that

Chuck Veit

war, arguing that the fall of New Orleans, rather than the Battle of Gettysburg, was the true turning point. Straddling that event in the Spring and Summer of 1862, the battles of Shiloh and Malvern Hill, denied the South the European recog-



Chuck Veit is president of the Navy & Marine Living History Association, a non-profit corporation dedicated to promoting public awareness of American naval history, and is the proprietor of 31BY5 Publishing Services, a venture dedicated to providing quality book design, layout, and illustrations to self-publishing authors.

He has worked in the field of graphic design since 1976 and, for the past fifteen years, has pursued and succeeded in dual careers: corporate Graphic Design, and the research, writing and presentation of U.S. Naval History. He is the author of 6 self-published books, and numerous articles on naval topics, and is the Layout Editor for the Journal of the Company of Military Historians.

As President of the Navy & Marine Living History Association, Chuck has presented naval history at living history events, lectures, and conferences including NOAA's Maritime Heritage Education Conference, the 2012 Civil War Navy Conference at the Mariners' Museum, the Naval War College, and the Naval Order of the United States at Jacksonville. As a Freelance Graphic Designer, Chuck has taught Graphic Design at the university level and in a corporate environment. He holds a Bachelor's in Studio Art and Historical Linguistics, and a Masters in Historical Linguistics from Clark University.

Notes from the President...

As summer continues, the days are hot and the Phils are in First Place, we appreciate your efforts in promoting our Round Table and our upcoming Civil War Naval Symposium. We have several items brewing and your support is valued. Welcome our new member **James Vine** when you see him.

Bob Russo gave a passionate presentation on Independence National Park at our July meeting. All in attendance learned new information, including our guests. This month, one of our Symposium presenters, **Chuck Veit** will visit us via Skype to explain "How the United States Navy won the American Civil War." Bring your friends, family and neighbors to enjoy this and the other great programs **Dave Gilson** has scheduled for us the rest of this year.

Kudos to **Frank Barletta** on getting our standing banner and **Ellen Preston's** map of Southern New Jersey Civil War sites completed. They debuted at our July meeting to rave reviews. "Flat Old Baldy" is coming next to travel with our members on their adventures. Be sure to pick up Boscov's "Friends helping Friends" coupons which offer 25% off purchases on October 16th. We are selling them for \$5.

Our MAC Book Team is planning on a Spring award presentation. Our Outreach program at the JCC in Cherry Hill went well and we are working on scheduling more in the area to spread the Old Baldy message. At our meeting, we will have a schedule of upcoming Town Days where we can visit and share our flyers and Symposium information. It has been decided the official color of our Round Table that will used in our branding is Brown.

The Early-bird and paired price for the Naval Symposium expire at the end of August. Submit your registration and remind all you know to also do so. Check with **Frank Barletta** to learn how you can be part of our biggest event and support its success. The exhibits, Chance Raffle and roaming musicians are going to enhance our great program.

We will soon be meeting with our Social Media intern to finalize our plan for spreading our message electronically. Please respond to **Kathy Clark's** questions so we can plan a fun and enjoyable Spring Trip. Write up your adventures and share with **Don Wiles** for a future newsletter. Members of our Board will be attend the CWRT Congress in Harrisburg to learn and share successful practices.

Join us at 5:30 at the Lamp Post Diner on the 9th for an entertaining pre-meeting meal. Travel safe and stay cool. *Rich Jankowski, President*



Today in Civil War History

1861 Friday, August 9

Trans Mississippi

Nathaniel Lyon, having fallen back on Springfield from his earlier position at Dug Spring, Missouri, knows that he does not have enough strength to protect the city. McCulloch's Confederate force, having joined with Price, Rains, and Jackson, is pushing north, and Frémont has troubles of his own in St Louis and is unable to send any help. Nevertheless, Lyon sets out with 5200 men on a night march to Wilson's Creek, where he proposes to use his heavily outnumbered force at least to delay the advancing Confederates, and even drive them back if he can mount a surprise attack.

1862 Saturday, August 9

Eastern Theater

Stonewall Jackson's seeming period of inactivity facing Pope comes to an end when his intended strike on Pope's army is fore-stalled by General Nathaniel Banks striking at the Confederate force first. At Cedar Mountain, Banks throws two divisions at what he believes to be a small Confederate force. At first, the powerful Union attack almost turns the flank of the Confederates, but the fortuitous arrival of A. P. Hill's division, detached from Lee's army at Richmond some days before, turns the battle. This accidental encounter could almost be called a skirmish were it not for the size of the forces involved and the scale of the losses. Banks' casualties are reported at 450 killed, 660 wounded and 290 missing, most of whom have been captured. Confederate losses total 229 killed, with over 1000 wounded and 31 missing. captured.

1863 Sunday, August 9

Eastern Theater

Siege operations continue against Battery Wagner, the Confederate redoubt on Morris Island. Union troops have dug two parallel lines of trenches already. During the night they dig another sap—a trench running toward the Confederates then branch out either side to start a third parallel. From here they can bring the rebel position under close-range fire.

WEB Site: http://oldbaldycwrt.org Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net

Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table

Lending Library by Frank Barletta

A "Lending Library" of the books written by the speakers will continue at this month's meeting.

Please return books checked out so other members can check one out.

1864 Tuesday, August 9

Western Theater

Sherman's artillery, reinforced by two 32-pounder Parrott guns, bombard Atlanta, inflicting civilian casualties. The first victims of the shelling are a little girl and her dog, blown to pieces on East Ellis and Ivy Streets. Sherman has no intention of assaulting the formidable defenses; his plan is to maneuver south to cut Hood's supply line and starve out the defenders. At Mobile, Union troops go ashore at Navy Cove under protection of the monitors. They invest Fort Morgan and its 400-strong garrison.

Welcome to a new recruit

James Vine



Life on the Federal Warships

In no profession or calling has tradition so strong a hold as it has upon the sailor. In the middle of the nineteenth century he was hemmed in by it. It molded his mind, governed his actions, and in the regular navy it produced a type whose language, appearance, and even gait were indigenous to the sea, the ship, and the service.

The traditions died only when the type itself expired. Although the Civil War marked a changing period from sail to steam, tradition survived long afterward, and during the war itself sailors were awkwardly adapting themselves to surroundings and methods that were being forced upon them. It was so with both officers and men. Of the former, many were too old to learn the new lessons. The enlisted man who had survived the sailing days lacked also two essential qualifications for the modern sailor: the first was education; the second, adaptability. Innovations were a bugbear to him; he fought progress and invention with all his might. Just as the introduction of gunpowder changed the manner and methods of land fighting, so did the introduction of steam into ships revolutionize the fighting tactics of navies. But it was a long time before steam and the marine engine came to be regarded as more than an auxiliary factor in shipbuilding.

The navy of the Civil War was recruited from all sorts and conditions of men. The real sailor was in the minority. Nearly two-thirds of the men who fought were rated as landsmen, and although they became good gunners, few progressed higher than ordinary seamen. The old "A B's" of the elder service were graduated to petty officers, and of the commissioned volunteers whose acting ranks during the war were those of masters and master's mates, very few remained in the service at the close of hostilities, a notable exception being Admiral Farenholdt, who worked his way up from an enlisted man to rear-admiral.

Ships of the Civil War

Editor's Note:

During the upcoming issues we will try to show an example of the different types of ships that were used in the Civil War. Some of the types of ships are; Gunboats, Cruisers, Raiders, Tin Clads, Ironclads, Rams, Blockade Runners, Submarines, Cutters, Transports, Cotton Clads, Hospital Ships and Etc...

The life of enlisted men on the blockading vessels was monotonous in the extreme. Only a few on the smaller or the faster ships saw very much of excitement, and, except for the bombardment of the forts, very little fighting. From the time a man enlisted on the receiving-ship until his term of service was up, very few of the sailors ever set foot ashore. In consequence, there was much arumbling in many of the forecastles, but taking it as a whole the men were well fed, well cared for, and contented.



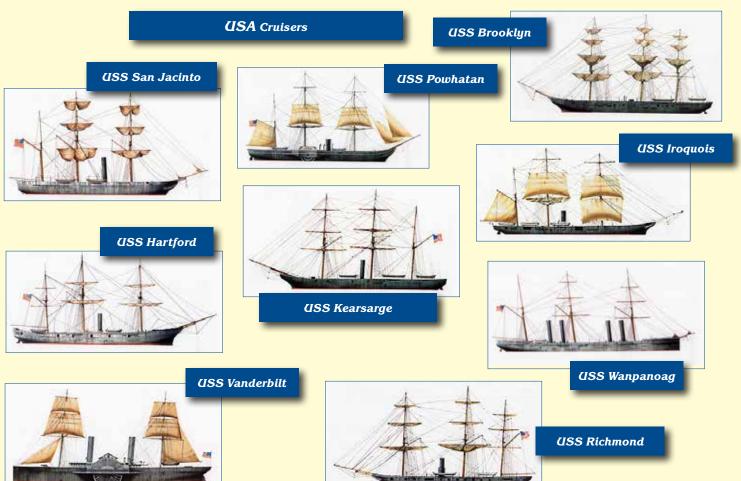
sels, three hundred and thirteen of which were steamers, were converted into ships of war, it can easily be seen how few men who were actually deep- sea sailors were placed on board of them. There was very little attempt made to do more than to work them

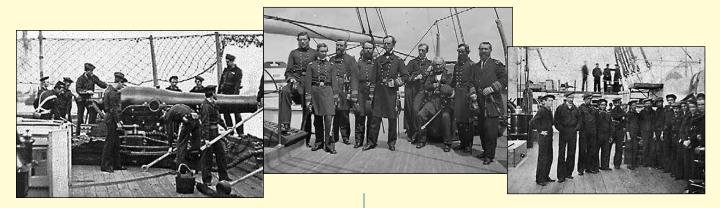


into useful shape at first. The adage of the old service was, "It takes three years to make a sailor," and sailors, in the proper sense of the term, most of them never became. But on the regular ships of the navy all the old order was maintained. The warrant-officers consisted of the boatswain,

The crews of the ships dispatched on foreign service and in search of the Confederate cruisers were picked men, although many of them came also from the volunteers. When it is taken into account that six hundred vessels were provided for the navy, of which two hundred war-ships were constructed, and four hundred and eighteen merchant ves-







gunner, sail-maker, and carpenter, and the divisions of the crew in this order followed: petty officers, able seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, and first- and second- class boys. The chief petty officer is the master-at- arms, who is really the chief of police of the ship; has two assistants, who are called ship's corporals. Then come the guartermasters, who, with the captain of the forecastle, are supposed to be the best of the ship's seamen. The guartermasters, in time of action, steer the vessel, and in port, report to the officer of the deck, taking care of signals and other movements in the harbor. Boatswains' mates are assistants to the boat- swain, and the medium through which the officers' orders are communicated to the crew. The gunners' mates and guarter-gunners have the guns and all their paraphernalia under their special charge; to each gun-deck there is a gunner's mate, and a quarter-gunner to each division. The crew proper is divided primarily into two watches, starboard and port watch; and secondarily into subdivisions which in the old days were entitled forecastlemen, foretopmen, maintopmen, mizzentopmen, after- guard, and waisters.

The ship's guns were divided into divisions, each generally under command of a lieutenant, assisted by a midshipman, and to each gun was assigned a crew that, in the muzzle-loading days, was made up of (for the heavier guns) one captain, one second captain, two loaders, two rammers and spongers, four side-tacklemen, five train-tacklemen, and a powder-boy—sixteen in all. Their names indicate distinctly their positions at the gun in action.

On board the faster vessels which acted as scouts on the outer line of the blockading squadrons, things often reached a pitch of great excitement. The appearance of low-lying, black lines of smoke against the horizon late in the afternoon was a sure precursor of the dash of a runner, either to make port or to reach shoal water along the beach—anyhow, to get through if possible. Rich as were the hauls, however, when the vessel was captured, they did not begin to compare in value with those taken from outward-bound blockade-runners loaded with cotton. Some of the blockading vessels had once been in the very business themselves, and there are instances of chases lasting fifty-six hours before the runner either escaped or was brought to, with most of her cargo jettisoned. In 1863, one noted blockade-runner loaded to the gunwales with cotton, brought as prize-money to the captain of the vessel that captured her twenty thousand dollars, and even the cabin-boys received large sums. If other vessels were in a certain radius of distance or attached to the same station, they also had a share in the money awarded by the prizecourts, and an escaping blockade-runner would remind one of a hare pursued by a heterogeneous pack of hounds the swiftest to the fore, and then the lumbering, unwieldy boats bringing up the rear. Of the fifty-one thousand men in the Federal Navy during the Civil War, not a third could have been called by the most elastic stretching of the term, sailors. A great majority rated as landsmen, were so in fact as well as name, and at least twelve or fifteen thousand of the men serving in the fleets along the coast and on the rivers had never set foot on a ship before enlisting.

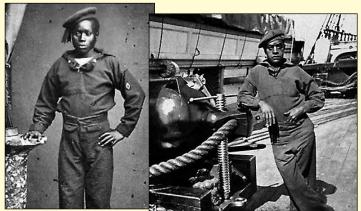
On the gunboats in the Mississippi and the converted non-descripts that did such good service along the shores, there was very little chance for putting into practice the strict rules that governed life on the regular vessels. The men in some cases had greater comforts, and in others

> much less. It was a question of give and take and make the best of it between officers and crew.

With the introduction of the monitors there came into sea life an entirely new existence. At sea, if the weather was rough the men were corked up like flies in a bottle. Under a hot sun the sleeping quarters below became almost unbear-

able, and their on decks so hot that they almost scorched the feet. This life in the ironclad, modified in a great measure with many comforts, is the life that has developed the seaman of today, for the old-time Jack has gone. A man must know more than how to make his mark when he enlists; his knowledge of arithmetic in fact must include the use of decimal fractions. The once-despised duties of the soldier are his also. He must know his manual of arms like a marine, for the ship's crew is an infantry regiment, a light-artillery battalion. The individuality of the sailorman as a class began to disappear when the generation that had fought the Civil War forsook the sea.

Miller's Photographic History of the Civil War, 1912



Camp Grant

by Rich Jankowski, President, OBCWRT

On a trip to Illinois to visit a serious ill friend, my son Joe and I was in Rockford. IL, between ballparks. He found a location called the Camp Grant Museum. We went over to the Command Post Restaurant near the Rockford International Airport, which houses the Camp Grant Museum to check it out. The airport occupies much of the land that was part of Camp Grant.

Construction of Camp Grant began on June 30, 1917. More than 8500 workers constructed 1,100 buildings in a few months. It was named in honor of General Ulysses S. Grant on July 15, 1917. In 1918, Camp Grant housed 50,000 officers and enlisted men. The camp encompassed 5,460 acres. The firing range covered 312 of those acres. It served as one of the largest military training facilities in the United States during World War I.

The Camp remained an active army site until 1924 when it was turned over to the Illinois



National Guard. In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps stationed approximately 1,100 men at Camp Grant to work on projects during the Great Depression. In 1940, the property reverted to regular army use for World War II as an induction center, a prison of war camp and a medical training unit. With the Camp's reactivation, a camp police and fire department were formed. Two military organizations that scored enviable records overseas that passed through Camp Grant were the famed 86th, known as the Black Hawks, and the 2808th Engineers, builders of bridges and railroads from Sicily to Florence. For a few short years after the war the barracks buildings of Camp Grant were converted into make-shift apartments. These 'homes' were utilized by returning Gls that had young families.

The museum building was one of the three fire stations at Camp Grant and later the induction and muster out center during the War. The museum strives to preserve some



of Rockford's local history. The dining room contains the displays and exhibits from World War I. The museum also includes a Naval Room, A Rockford Room, a



World War II Room and an Officers Room. Thousands of artifacts and pictures decorate every inch of wall space at the Camp Grant Museum & Restaurant (Command Post) including aerial views of the camp, newspaper clippings, artwork created by

prisoners of war, pictures of Camp Grant sports teams, soldier souvenirs such as salt and pepper shakers etched with the words "Camp Grant Rockford, IL," whistles, uniforms, flags and more. Some fun facts about Camp Grant: it serves as the setting for the book, Taps for Charlie by Carl Brown; it was mentioned in M*A*S*H Season 5, episode 17 by Colonel Potter; and Simon Haley, father of Alex Haley (of Roots fame) was stationed there in World War I.

Rockford is between Chicago and Madison on I-90. Next time you are in the area, take time to visit and enjoy a meal. Suggested donation is \$10. It is located at 1004 Samuelson Road in Rockford. The web address is https://campgrantmuseum.weebly.com/.

League Of New Jersey Historical Societies Spring Meeting

By Kathy Clark, Member OBCWRT

On Saturday, June 10, 2017 the League of NJ Historical Societies Spring Meeting was held at Liberty Hall Museum located on the campus of Kean University in Union, NJ. There was breakfast, welcome, the regular business meeting and then, the much anticipated presentation by Bill Schroh. Bill, Director of the Museum Operations at Liberty Hall Museum: presented "How an 18th Century historic house stays relevant in the 21st century world". This is the goal of many historic sites for it is the young people, future leaders of our great nation, who will continue the work already underway. The interactive world of iPads, computers, and cellphones have pushed aside hands on discovery while the children take live at face view. The idea is to help young people, school groups, and older adults to become part of the history through hands on demonstrations and at the same time use the electronic devices to bring the story of our history in a way that relates to the group. They then get more enthusiastic about learning. Innovations made by teachers, museums, and history sites are part of the key

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to introducing the amazing stories of our American History. It is "hands on" history where children can touch and feel and operate that make understanding and creativity happen. Eighteen century houses should think beyond just touring especially with groups of children by seeing the site and understanding what the owner's life was like in a certain time period, then using the actual devise used in the home to make history come alive!

After the presentation, we had lunch. We had some time to explore the exquisite gardens with flowers and landscaped area: a joy to behold. After lunch, we got "A Taste

of Liberty Hall" first by dividing into three separate

Wallace House Rear

groups. One group toured the first floor of the house. The first elected governor of New Jersey, William Livingston, built and resided in the house, now located on the campus of Kean University. There have been seven generations of Livingston and Kean families, producing governors, senators, congressmen and captain of industry. The ladies of Liberty Hall also played a part by being business women, hostesses, and historic

preservationist. What was also interesting was that

Bound Brook Battle Мар

Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay have also left their history on the residence.

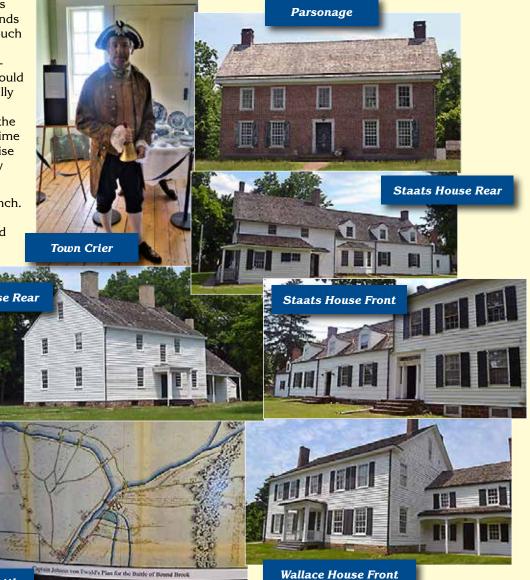
The next stop was "Brothers in Arms: Memorials of the Great War". This exhibit commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the US entering World War I. The museum took the service of Captain John Kean and his brother Congressman Robert W. Kean to tell this story, through post cards, maps, pictures and commemorative pins on display for viewing. The tour stated in 1917 (basic training), to 1917-18 (fighting on the front lines), then 1919 (returning home). The group had the chance to see part of the exhibit on the first floor, second and then the basement viewing some



Association Banner

of the rooms that are not normally seen on tour.

The third group was "Hands on History". Herbs grown in the gardens, equipment used in the kitchen and elsewhere



and even a cut out cow which the children could actually milk. The most interesting project was making small books out of recycled paper and ribbon. They are folded in such a way that when open they look accordion pleated used anyway the children's imagination will take them. Some of them tell stories in the book: making their own history, others write poetry and even drawings. It comes down to whatever the child wants to create. They were not real difficult to make and had a lot of fun creating. We did a 2x2 size but can make them larger as the need requires.

I think we all learned information that we can reuse over and over again: finding ways to make history interesting for all generations. That is the key to keeping history in the fore front of importance in our lives. We get a glimpse of facts and figures during our school years but it is historical societies, round tables, schools and historic sites who can change the way we deal with the subject of American History. I took away a feeling of pride that we, Old Baldy, is making one of our goals to bring history to as many as possible beyond the boundaries of our group. I am glad we could represent our round table at the workshop and make it known to other groups that we are spreading the word to all!

Continued from page 6 - "New Jersey Historical Societies"

In a passing comment: Liberty Hall Museum is a wonderful destination for a day trip with your family. The house's history is unique and the furnishings original to the house through many generations. The gardens at this time of year a place to walk and reflect on days passed and the new exhibit on WWI a very interesting history lesson. Take a daytrip to explore New Jersey history.

Liberty Hall Museum; 1003Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083 908-527-0400 www.kean.edu/libertyhall

Interesting Tidbits in Military History

Four Star Chaplin

by Mike Cavanaugh, OBCWRT Member

Reverend George Bartlett Wood, Jr., of the 82nd Airborne Division, successfully completed his fourth combat jump

on September 17, 1944. He parachuted with the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR) in Holland as part of Operation "Market Garden." Reverend Wood, affectionately known as Chappie by his fellow troopers, is always ready to lend a helping hand, whether it is to care for the wounded, bury the dead, and, most importantly, giving aid and comfort to those who suffered from the mental fatigue of combat. Chaplain Wood and the other chaplains in the 82nd want to participate in combat jumps. They don't do it to put gold stars on their wings. They do it because it puts them on the front lines where they feel they are most needed. This is where the action is. This is their job. Chaplains pay special attention to the dead. They also write letters to family members, taking care of their personal effects, and marking the location of their burials. Chaplain Wood uses a standard graveside service which, he sadly admits, is used far too many times:

We are gathered here today before God and in the sight of man to give a proper

and reverent burial to the victims of atrocities committed by armed forces the name and by the order of the German Government. He concluded with, Protestant, Catholic and Jewish prayers will be said by Chaplains Wood, Hannan, and Wall of the 82nd Airborne Division for these victims as we lay them to rest and commit them into the hands of our Heavenly Father in the hope that the world will not again be faced with such barbarity. (The 82nd Airborne Division Museum, Chaplain George Wood Collection, Fort Bragg, NC).

George Bartlett Wood, Jr. was born June 17, 1910, in Bidford, Maine. The 1930 Census shows him living at home with his parents, he was quickly enrolled in the U.S. Army's Chaplain Corps. Standing six feet tall, and weighing 158 pounds, Lieutenant Wood was in excellent physical condition. Being a very active person, the thought of jumping out of an airplane appealed to him - along with the extra \$50 a month. He volunteered with the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR), which had recently transferred into the 82nd Airborne Division.



Father Matt Connelly, Dr. Daniel Mcllvoy, and George Wood



Looking For The Best

The U.S. moved to create an Airborne Division by looking at one of the best infantry divisions in the U.S. Army, the

82nd Infantry Division. Known as the "All Americans," (so named, it was claimed they had men from every state in the Union in its ranks). In World War I, the 82nd Infantry's combat record was second to none. Its most famous soldier, Medal of Honor recipient, Sgt. Alvin York, was brought in to build the morale of the troops. It was a huge success. Turning the WW I infan-

try division into an airborne division was now in the hands of top notch officers. All were supporters of an airborne division. Omar Bradley, commandant of the Infantry School, was assigned to command the new 82nd Airborne Division. General Matthew Ridgeway was his second in command. When Bradley was transferred to the 28th Division, Matthew Ridge-

way took command. The 505th was transferred into the 82nd with Colonel James Gavin, at the helm. William "Bill" Lee (Father of the U. S. Airborne), was a major player in the formation of airborne programs. Maxwell Taylor was named Chief of Staff for Ridgeway. He would become the commending

officer of the 101st Screaming Eagles down the road.. They were also blessed with lower rank officers and noncoms with past combat experience. In the beginning all they had to work with was a few thousand out-of-condition draftees. A brutal conditioning program and intense paratroop training separated the wheat from the chaff. As things settled, it was found that the 82nd was overloaded the to many men. The 82nd was divided in two and the 101st Airborne Division was born. The 82nd was made much stronger with the transfer of the highly rated 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR), into its ranks. Wood knew right off, he was in a top-notch outfit. The commanding officer, James M. Gavin, would become the youngest general since the Civil War. General Matthew Ridgeway, the XVIII Airborne Corps commander, remarked, "I have no doubt that, based on its record, the 505th was the best parachute regiment to come out of World War II." The days were filled with long cross-country marches, with full gear and weapons. Night jumps were always a challenge. Exercises that develop quick assembly procedures were vital to survival after the men hit

Continued from page 7 - "Four Star Chaplin"

the ground. But most important, a close bond developed between the officers, noncoms and the enlisted men. Gavin was with them every day, training with them and closely recording their progress. He instructed his officers, they will eat last and exit the plane door first. Major Daniel Mcllvoy, the regimental surgeon, tells the story he and Father Matthew Connelly were listening to one of Gavin's famous pep talks. Connelly turning to the major said, said "I hope he doesn't ask us to jump without parachutes, because I'm sure no man would have refused to go!" At another Gavin talk a bystander remarked, "Gavin needed only to lift a finger and say 'follow me' and there wasn't

Chaplain George Wood was ready to go to war.

December 24, 1956 Mike's First Jump Fort Campbell, Kentucky a single man who wouldn't have followed him straight to Hell!' Chaplain George Wood, now Captain Wood, went through it all, including jump school at Fort Benning, with the dreaded 250- foot towers. He completed his five jumps and was awarded the coveted paratroopers jump wings.

fugitives from the law of averages. Staff Sergeant Russell O'Neal was anxious to get it over with but he was resigned to the fact that his Irish luck was about to run out.

Post War V-E Day May 8, 1945. When summer and the

war ended. General Gavin was sure that the 82nd would remain part of the peace-time army. But in early October, the division was notified it would be disbanded. The 101st Screaming Eagles would be the airborne division in a peacetime army. The news was devastating to the entire division. The general appealed to every one of importance he knew with no luck. General Gavin did

received an anonymous letter from a former officer in the division who said it all. He wrote, We know that somewhere there will always be an 82nd Airborne Division, because it lives in the hearts of men. And somewhere, young men will dare the challenge to 'Stand up and hook up' and know that moment of pride and strength which is its reward.

On the morning of January 12, 1946, the 82nd Airborne Division moved by truck and rail to Manhattan to march up Fifth Avenue in the great New York City Victory Parade. When an elderly lady remarked, "Why you are only babies!" A nearby sergeant replied "Lady, those are the toughest babies you ever see."

At the close of World War II, Reverend Wood returned to civilian life and continued his service to the ministry. He graduated from the Hoosac School in Hoosick, New York and held a Doctor of Divinity Degree from the Nashotah House Seminary in Nashotah, Wisconsin. He served as the rector of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana. for twenty-four years and was also closely associated with the Church of the Nativity in Huntsville, Alabama.

Chaplain Wood, however, did not sever his connection with the 82nd Airborne Division after the war. He served as past president and permanent chaplain of the 82nd Airborne Division Association. While serving as the National Chaplain of AMVETS. Reverend Wood was elected vice-chairman of the Parachuting Hall of Fame. It was when he was named an Honorary Citizen of Ste. Mere Eglise, that Chappie found most humbling.

On the thirty-sixth anniversary of the Normandy Invasion Reverend George Wood spoke at a local memorial ceremony. It is not warmongering to say that some things are worth fighting for. I have no time for those who say that our dead died in vain. As long as there is someone left to remember, nobody ever dies. Wherever liberty is threatened, men will die – now and in the future. But they do not die in vain – their deeds live after them.

On January 5, 1999, Major George B. Wood passed away in Huntsville, Alabama. He was buried in the Maple Hill Cemetery with full military honors, George Wood was 88 years of age. His passing was less than a year after his dear wife Wil-

Sicilv

combat parachute jumps.

On July 10, 1943, the 82nd Airborne Division parachuted into Sicily in the U.S. Army's first mass combat jump. Despite being scattered over the countryside, with heavy losses, the mission was considered a victory. The 82ND fought the Hermann Goering Panzer Division to a standstill.

Note: Time and space limitations permit only cursory

borne Division. These are the four battles the unit made

coverage of the World War II history of the 82nd Air-

In Sicily Chaplain Wood was given credit for being the first American chaplain to make a combat jump. Showing his keen sense of humor, he wrote, All paratroopers feel like Supermen. After all, when a fellow has defied nature like that [jumping out of airplanes] and escaped, what's a bullet or two?" (Brooklyn Daily Eagle June 21, 1944).

Salerno, Italy

The 82nd was given little time to rest. They were called on to rescue the Allied beachhead at Salerno. Combat jump number two would be a night jump. The Americans were reinvigorated by the arrival of the paratroopers, stopping German counterattacks. The advance on Naples was successful. The city fell to the 82nd on October 1, 1943.

Normandy

A news item in the July 18, 1944, issue of the Minnesota Star Tribune. Chaplain Wood felt the French Invasion [Normandy] was "far rougher" for the airborne men that anything he had seen in the Sicily or Italian operations. Chaplain Wood, now a captain with two combat jumps, Normandy would be his third. He did take notice that the invasion force touched down on the beaches four to the six hours after the airborne armada crossed into France. Ste. Mere Eglise and the 82nd Airborne Division are legends in airborne history.

Market Garden

On the morning of the jump into Holland - fifty-three miles behind German lines - Chaplain Wood held an unusually well-attended church service. It was his fourth combat jump. Thousands of troopers would be jumping in Operation Market Garden. but only a few hundred would be making their fourth combat jump. Some of the men felt like

ma E. Wood passed on. In his obituary, Wood requested all donations to be sent to the **82nd**



Airborne Division Association Education Fund. Chappie was an "All American" to

the very end.

The Cricket

Those who may have seen the film "The Longest Day" will remember actor John Wayne played the role of Colonel Ben Vandervoort, the commanding



officer of the 2nd Battalion, 505th PIR. In one scene he is instructing his men in the use of the cricket. All though the film has its share of Hollywood bloopers, it is still considered by many as one of the best war films ever made. This epic was done before the computer graphics age. Our hero John Wayne, gives the impression that the men of the 82nd Airborne were issued crickets. Not so. The 101st Airborne Division was the only unit to be issued the devise. Yes, there are many credible accounts of 82nd troopers possessing crickets. That can be explained for several reasons. Obtained in trade with 101st troopers, picked up while in camp the 101st vacated. How about winning one in a crap game! Stranger things have been won - - and lost. One amusing account was an experience by our own Chaplain George Wood. Battalion Surgeon Captain Lyle Putnam, after a jump, found himself utterly alone. Gathering his chute and medical equipment, he began searching for friendly troopers. Near one of the hedgerows he saw a figure approaching cautiously. Putnam froze in his tracks, leaned forward and loudly whispered the password, "Flash!" There was a moment of electric silence as Putman waited for the countersign of which was "Thunder." Instead, to his amazement, the other man yells, "Jesus Christ!" and turns and fled like a frightened deer. Half a mile away, he met his friend Chaplain Wood, also alone. He was franticly busy banging away on his cricket. Suddenly a voice behind him yelled; "For God's sake Padre, stop making that damn noise!" A chastened Chaplain Wood decided to move on and look for more friendly faces. General Gavin was adamantly opposed to the use of the cricket. He and other officers though it was nothing more than a kid's toy. They would stick with the password system.

The 82nd vs 101st

The 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions from day one

The Gun that Made the War

By Austin DeMarco

Our story begins and ends in Pennsylvania, in small towns and one of the most important battles in the war which would decide the future of the United States of America. Technological innovation often plays a crucial role in the outcome of warfare, but in the case of the American Civil War, a simple improvement in iron forging may have secured the North's victory.

Continued on page 10

had a somewhat strange "friendly"

relationship. The 82nd "All Americans" are referred to at times as **"Almost Airborne."** The 101st Screaming Eagles are known to some as the

"puking" or



"screeching buzards." The latest is the "one hundred and worst!" Lots of fun! But when the chips are down, the Screaming Eagles know the All Americans would cover their backs and visa versa. Our emenies will be making a fatal mistake – as they have done so many times in the past - to think otherwise.

Mike's Notes: It should be noted that the infantry divisions in this article received excellent support from the attached, field artillery, engineer, and medical units. **The Glider troops especially** - The braveist of the brave, took appalling casualties. They did not receive the \$50 extra a month extra like the jumpers. **Sad!**

Suggested Reading:

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_____, Cornelius. A Bridge Too Far. Simon and Schuster, 1974.

Trez, Michel De. The Legendary Cricket of D-Day. D-Day Publishing, 2007.

I would like to sincerely thank the following for their help with this project.: Pat Caldwell, Ed Hagerty, Clair Kukielka, Ed Root, Jeff Stocker, Don Wiles.



Continued from page 9 - "The Gun"

Up until the mid–1800s, gunners had to be cautious when firing cast iron cannon since overuse could cause the muzzle to overheat and begin to droop from its own weight, a deformation which would lead to a much more devastating burst barrel if the gun continued to be used.

In 1854, however, John Griffen, then superintendent of Safe Harbor Iron Works in Lancaster County, PA, devised a new way to



John Griffen

make durable wrought iron. Instead of forging and shaping the raw iron with a hammer and anvil, Griffen rolled the hot iron into rods, a process which more evenly distributed the density of the metal.

As part of his duties at Safe Harbor, Griffen was required to make regular trips to Philadelphia, and it was here that he entered into a discussion with a Major Bates of the Coast Survey on the benefits of his new forging method. While debating the possible uses of the metal, Bates suggested that wrought could be used in cannon rather than the cast iron or brass currently in service. At first, Griffen had misgivings, but the idea intrigued him enough to pursue, and by the time he returned to Safe Harbor, he had already drawn up plans for a prototype.

After receiving approval from Samuel I. Reeves, president of Phoenix Iron Company in parent firm of Safe Harbor, Griffen set to work to create the gun. The first 3.5-inch Phoenixville, PA, the Ordnance Rifle, known informally as the "Griffen gun," was produced in late 1854.

The gun was incredibly light- weight (more than 200 pounds lighter than the typical brass guns), but also extremely durable. When it

was test fired at Fort Monroe in 1856, Griffen told the gunner to "shoot until you burst it." Five hundred rounds later, the bore was measured to be exactly the same size as when firing began.

True to Griffen's instructions, the gun was loaded with twice the normal amount of powder and shot and fired five more times. There was still no effect. The charge and shot were steadily increased until the cannon finally burst after being loaded with seven pounds of powder and thirteen shot-the most that could fit inside the barrel. During the war, only one gun was known to have burst on the battlefield: a burst muzzle in Snyder's Section of Ricketts' Battery F in the First Pennsylvania Artillery at the Battle of Wilderness on May 5, 1864.

Griffen became superintendent of Phoenix Iron Company in 1856, and with him and Reeves both working out of this plant, production of the Griffen guns was moved entirely to Phoenixville. Over the next few years, both men made improvements to the gun's design, each taking out patents for their inventions.

When war broke out in 1861, final adjustments were made to the weapon to ready it for battlefield use, including a significant decrease in weight, narrowing of the bore to

CANNON TUBE CANNON TUBE SERIAL NUMBER MANUFACTURER (PHOENIX IRON (No. 233) COMPANY) YEAR MADE (1862)GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR (THEODORE THADDEUS CANNON TUBE WEIGHT SOBIESKI LAIDLEY) (816 lbs)

three inches, and elongated trunnions to accommodate mounting on standard 6-pounder carriages. The Model 1861 3-inch Ordnance Rifle had a 69" long rifled barrel weighing 816 pounds. Its maximum range was measured to be 1,830 yards with an eight pound shell and one pound powder charge.

From 1861-1867, Phoenix Iron Company turned out approximately 950 Griffen guns for the army (48% of all Union guns), each costing between \$330 and \$350. Lighter weight and more accurate than their Parrott counterparts, the 3-inch Ordnance Rifles soon became renowned among the Confederate Army In 1864, a member of Lumden's Confederate battery wrote, "The Yankee three-inch rifle was a dead shot at any distance under a mile. They could hit the end of a flour barrel more often than miss." He went on to describe how three unexploded shells came through the embrasures in their entrenchments during the battles around Atlanta, causing a great deal of damage to their batteries.

Griffen guns were used on both sides throughout the war-some pieces were lost and fell into Confederate hands-including the battle of Gettysburg. On July 1, 1863, Griffen gun #233 fired the first shot of that battle, and other 3-inch Ordnance Rifles played a critical role in securing a Union victory.

> Today, 75 guns remain on the Gettysburg battlefield, including #233, standing in the approximate position where it fired that memorable shot. Some 300 others can be found in Civil War memorial parks and museums throughout the eastern United States. An original 1855 model, without a serial number as it never saw active service, resides in Reeves Park in Phoenixville, PA.

The last 3-inch Ordnance Rifle was produced in January of 1867, but the cannon left an indelible mark on US

history. Griffen's innovative design gave the Union an edge during the war, facilitating the victories which would lead to the end of the conflict and ensure that the United States would remain just that for generations to come.

North&South, July 2012

"Out Cutlasses, and Board!"

In the grand old days of wooden ships and iron men boarding was a commonplace tactic in naval warfare. But by the time of the Civil War, the introduction of long-ranged cannon, steam power, and ironclad warships greatly reduced the possibility of using such tactics.

Nevertheless, during the Civil War, and for more than a generation after it, the U.S. Navy still issued several weapons designed for hand-to-hand combat, and Uncle Sam's bluejackets and jar-heads were routinely required to practice with them, as were their Confederate counterparts.

Naval Close-Combat Weapons During the Civil War

Weapon Description

Battle Axe 20-inch hickory shaft with a 4-inch steel axe head, with hammer peen.

- **Boarding Pike** 8-foot ash shaft topped by an 8-inch steel spearhead.
- Cutlass M1841 26-inch straight, double-edge blade, with brass basket hand guard
- Cutlass M1862 32-inch curved, single- edged blade, with brass basket hand guard

Despite their apparent obsolescence, all of these weapons saw some use in combat during the war, and not just in ship-to-ship actions either. Some of the sailors and marines who took part in the storming of Fort Fisher in January of 1865 were armed with edged-weapons rather than muskets and revolvers.

These weapons long-survived the Civil War. Battle axes which were useful for damage control as well as close combat—and boarding pikes were not abolished until the 1880s. Cutlasses lingered on for much longer. In fact, sailors were still required to perform cutlass drill into the early years of the twentieth century. And the cutlass was not formally dropped from the Navy until 1949, apparently due to one of those "administrative oversights" of which bureaucracies are so fond.

North&South, March 2000

Short Rounds

"It's a Miracle . . . !"

There are numerous tales about the ingenuity, inventiveness, and wit of the Civil War soldier—regardless of side. Some of them may even be true, though one often wonders. Consider the following anecdote. It seems that a soldier—side indeterminate—lost his bayonet. Not wishing to report the loss and have to pay for a replacement, he whittled a reasonable facsimile from wood so that, except upon close inspection, he would seem to have his bayonet. The soldier calculated that this expedient would serve until his regiment next went into action, at which time he would have a reasonable chance of picking a real one up from the detritus that inevitably littered every battlefield.

The improvisation worked for a short time. But then came a formal inspection. Passing along the line of troops, the inspecting officer halted before the soldier in question. Looking him over, the officer asked, "Let me see your bayonet, private."

Thinking quickly, the soldier replied, "Sir, I promised my father I would never draw my bayonet unless I intended to kill with it."

The officer insisted. Seeing no option, the soldier drew the bogus bayonet from its sheath, while looking skyward and saying, "May the Lord change this bayonet to wood for breaking my vow."

North&South, May 2005

Join us at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, August 9th, at Camden County College, Blackwood Campus, Connector Building, Room 101.

The Biderman Flag

by Chuck Lyons, North&South, June 2008

The only Confederate flag to be captured in the state of California never flew very high or very long—nor was it the focus of any great military action. But the feelings around it were strong. The so-called "Biderman Flag" was unfurled July 4, 1861, flew briefly at a height of about seven feet, and was taken down in minutes.

It was perhaps the high point of the Confederacy in California.

About 10:00 that evening, following an Independence Day fireworks show in Sacramento, Major J. P. Gillis unfurled the flag, which had been wrapped around his walking stick, and paraded it down the boardwalk by the St. George Hotel at 4th and I Streets, to the applause of the many Southern sympathizers on hand. The unique silk flag has two red bars and one white and a blue field with seventeen white stars. Major Gillis's moment of glory did not last long.

Two Union sympathizers, J. W. Biderman and Curtis Clark, had followed Gillis from the St. George out into the street. Almost as soon as Gillis unfurled the flag, Biderman grabbed him by the throat with his left hand, and with his right tore off the flag its staff and put it in his pocket, while shouting that no such flag could be carried in the town in his presence.



Biderman then left the scene,

only to return moments later accompanied by a small group of fellow Unionists. They waved the captured flag in front of the St. George and invited any "secessionists" who dared to come and take it.

None did, though Gillis apparently tried to borrow a knife from someone in the crowd, apparently to use to attack Biderman. Failing that, according to the Sacramento Daily Union, he "earnestly plead for the flag's return." He was rebuffed.

The "Biderman Flag" — which might just as well be called the "Gillis Flag" — is currently on display at the California State Capitol Museum.

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

July 12th Meeting

"Independence Hall, An Ideal, A Park, A World Heritage Site"

presented by Bob Russo

The most historic square mile in the United States is in the center of Philadelphia: a designation of an ideal that people could be free! The events of 1776-1777 in this historic square mile began the process of an important realization that freedom was a possibility. At the same time the word "Freedom" comes at a cost for the men who talked about wanting to separate themselves from King George III. Their lives and those of their family were on the line. There was the human rights issue and the increasing amount of taxes: the stamp and sugar acts which was a levy on ordinary citizens. The Quartering Act which stated if a British soldier needed a place to stay for the night or longer the citizen had to comply. The ports of Boston were closed and administration of justice act was enforced. As a result of all the limitations on citizens by the King something had to be done.

When on July 8, 1776, at noon, Colonial John Nixon read the Declaration of Independence to all who wanted to listen, outside citizens stormed the building, removed the King's Crest, dragging it through the streets, burning it near City Hall. The people want to be free without a King as ruler. Slavery and slave trade were still part of the many human rights issues still plaguing our delegates who consisted of white, wealthy, Christian men. Women were not part of this equation until in the 1920's the suffragette's pushed for a women's right to vote concluding with the 19th amendment. Another strong woman during this time of upheaval (a woman way beyond her times) stated, "We will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation. Always remember the ladies"! A quote from Abigail Adams!

The main building (Assembly Room) was built between 1732-1748, stair tower and bell tower built between 1750-1753. Three documents were debated, ratified and signed: The Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation and US Constitution. Lincoln spoke on a platform outside Independence Hall and upon his death, he would lie in state as 100,000 people passed by his casket. We were already at war with British with Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775. As the pollical figures saw more of the cruel war that was happening, they increased their message about detaching ourselves from British rule and becoming Independence States.

Richard Henry Lee was one person who wanted the state's independent, others such as Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, George Washington and Ben Franklin strong legislators also fought for independence. John Dickerson and his "Letter from a Pennsylvania Farmer" with strong beliefs in colonists' rights but was trying to find a peaceful resolution. In the summer of 1787 the debate was conducted to write a Constitution for these United States. "We The People" established in September 17, 1787were the negotiations of George Washington, James Madison, Ben





Bob Russo

Franklin and others who sat in the assembly to decide

on terms of a president, a Supreme Court and how many justices, the resolution on slavery and amendments. The delegates who debated the Articles of Confederation and then the Constitution felt that slavery would end on its own in twenty years. Then came the invention of the Cotton Gin and all that changed.

In the Fall of 1777 to Spring, 1778 British troops occupied Philadelphia. In the Long Gallery on the second floor of Independence Hall wounded Continental Soldiers were treated and some died. Continental Soldiers were held as prisoners of war in this same gallery and the 1850's Fugitive Slave Trails were held. If you walk to Washington Square today the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary Soldiers is the main part of the square. The freedom we have today is "a light for which many men have died in darkness". At 6th and Chestnut Congress Hall opened in 1789 as the Philadelphia County Court. This is the oldest building standing that once housed Congress. In this building there was the first peaceful exchange of power between George Washington (outgoing President) and John Adams (incoming President). The Old City Hall was used as the US Supreme Court from 1791-1800 with six judges. John Jay was the Chief Justice of this court.

Jacob Graff House was where Thomas Jefferson writes the first draft of the Declaration of Independence. Originally built in 1775 by Philadelphia Bricklayer, Jacob Graff, Jr. Today the house has been rebuilt and is open for visitors. Benjamin Franklin's printing shop helped to print newspapers, doctrines, pamphlets for and against the unrest of the times. Each sheet of paper that was printed were set with individual type. The wooden case of letters for setting type are in the upper wooden case and the lower letters for setting type are in the lower wooden case. Benjamin Franklin loved his job as printer and was a strong advocate of the Independence process. As he was sitting in the assembly hall looking at the chair that Washington used, he wondered if the sun on the back of the chair was a rising or setting sun. "I have often in the course of this session, looked at that behind the President without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting: But at length I have the happiness to know that it is a rising, not a setting sun".

The First Bank of the US, established by Alexander Hamilton in 1791 had a 20-year charter. Hamilton wanted the bank to bring stability to the economy. He started a national credit system, useful national currency and the US Mint. The Anti-Federalist thought the bank was unconstitutional and began to tax citizens. The Charter was not renewed



Brown Water Navy



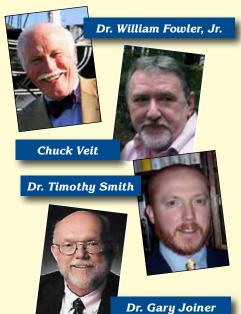
Civil War Navy Symposium

Blue

Water

Navy

Symposium Speakers



Symposium Music



Jake Laubach

Symposium Living History





Farragut

Under Two Flags: The American Navy in the Civil War... Dr. William M. Fowler Jr., Northeastern University; Will provide the introduction into the status Navy prior to the Civil War and preparation for conducting Naval Operations. Giving an explanation to the formation of the Blockage Fleet of Southern ports and its overall effectiveness.

A Dog Before a Soldier... Chuck Veit, President Navy & Marine Living History Association, Presentation on African Americans in the Union Navy. The experience of black sailor in the navy was very different than the treatment their counterparts received in the Army.

Grant Invades Tennessee; The 1862 Battles for Forts Henry and Donelson... Dr. Timothy B Smith,

Furnishing an introduction into the builders and construction of the early ironclads. Presentation on their first major engagement in the joint Naval and Army involvement in the Battle for Fort Henry and Donelson.

Mr. Lincoln's Brown Water Navy:

The Mississippi Squadron... Dr. Gary D. Joiner, Louisiana State University Shreveport, A discussion of the significant Naval activities on the Western rivers with presentations on Vicksburg and the Red River Campaign.

Charlie Zahm, While Charlie Zahm is one of the most popular singers at Celtic and maritime music events in the Eastern United States, several years ago Charlie's interest in the great collection of music from the War Between the States was sparked when friends in the Civil War community *finally* convinced him that he has a strong Civil War repertoire.

The Jolly Tars,

Jake Laubach, Jake has amassed a respectable repertory of songs and tunes that span three hundred years and has added the fretless banjo, concertina, mandolin and other folk instruments to his musical arsenal.

Ken Purcell, Ken performs many genres of music, he has increasingly gravitated toward music of the American Civil War

> Also present will be numerous members of the Navy & Marine Living History Association, including Admiral Farragut and Captain Percival Drayton Display space has been provided that local Historical Associations to introduce and advance their present to the attendees.

Presented by Old Baldy Civil War Round Table With the Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility at Camden **County College.** October 20, 2018 · 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Symposium to be held on board the Battleship New Jersey in her berth at Camden (Delaware River), New Jersey

Drayton

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Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission at Camden County College, the officially designated history agency of the New Jersey Historical Commission



Continued from page 11 - "July 12th Meeting"

by Congress. The Second Bank (1824) which was given a charter in 1816 by Madison. Nicholas Biddle became the bank's president. In 1832 when the bank asked for a charter renewal Jackson vetoed the renewal and helped destroy the Second Bank. For a second time the banking system was thought to be unconstitutional.

"As pure a son of liberty as I have ever known" stated by Thomas Jefferson of Thaddeus Kosciuszko. He was a volunteer in the American Revolution with his military career in the US and Poland. Being a Polish Military engineer, he helped fortify West Point and the defenses around Yorktown and the Delaware River. He became a Polish hero, leading an uprising against Russian Forces even thought it was unsuccessful. He came back to Philadelphia in 1797. The Liberty Bell World Heritage Site. "Proclaim Liberty Through out all the Land unto All the Inhabitants Thereof". The Liberty Bell is a "World Icon" and although it did not ring again after the hairline crack, it was the repair of the bell which was worse than the actual crack, the bell remains the living symbol of freedom. It was moved during the Bicentennial with a ceremony that helped us remember why the bell is important to us to the building it is in now. Not only do many US citizens come to see the bell every year, the international visitors are also aware of the history and significance of this precious icon.

Bob, your passion for history is outstanding. Being a volunteer at the buildings of Independence Hall complex is so meaningful to you and to all of us at Old Baldy. There were so many little facts about this area of Philadelphia that were new to us. Thank you, Bob, for bringing your knowledge about the history of Independent Hall to all the members that attended. It was an excellent presentation and a meaningful evening of history.

Generate funding for our Round Table "Amazon Smile"

Would you like your everyday Amazon purchases benefit Old Baldy CWRT? Amazon has a giving program that donates 0.5% of your purchases to a non-profit of your choice. All you need to do is log into your account via https://smile.amazon.com/ and make purchases as you regularly do. It is that easy. Remember to add the new link in your favorites and overwrite your amazon.com as you need to enter via the smile portal. You are in smile when the upper left-hand logo indicates amazonsmile.

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3. Type in **Old Baldy** and Select **Old Baldy Civil War Round Table Of Philadelphia** as your new charitable organization to support.

That's it! Now 0.5% of your Amazon purchases will donated to Old Baldy.

Five Year Awards

Martin Wilensky





President Rich Jankowski presented Five Year Pins to three members

Gerri Hughes

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2018

September 13 – Thursday Melissa Ziobro "Women in the QS Military"

October 11 – Thursday Joseph-James Ahern "The Philadelphia Navy Yard: Mainstay of the Fleet, 1801–1995"

November 8 – Thursday Scott Mingus Sr. "The Second Battle of Winchester"

Questions to Dave Gilson - 856-938-5280 - ddsghh@comcast.net

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia Camden County College Blackwood Campus - Connector Building Room 101 Forum, Civic Hall, Atrium

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