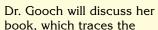
Hinsonville's Heroes: Black Civil War Soldiers of Chester County, Pennsylvania

Dr. Cheryl Renée <u>Gooch</u>

Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, December 13th, at Camden County College in the Connector Building, Room 101. This month's topic is "Hinsonville's Heroes: Black Civil War Soldiers of Chester County, Pennsylvania"



stories of residents of Hinsonville, a free black community, who fought for the Union. Named for Emory Hinson, a black man who purchased acres straddling Lower and Upper Oxford townships in Chester County, PA, the former 19th century village of Hinsonville attracted both free and determined to be free people who championed religious freedom, higher education, land ownership and equal rights. Residents organized a black Protestant church, supported the founding of Ashmun Institute (later Lincoln University), vigilantly opposed slavery and, in some cases, emigrated to Liberia as a part of the colonization movement. The community's tradition of self-determination compelled 18 of its men to enlist to advance the freedom cause, 11 of whom trained at the former Camp William near Philadelphia.

Some of the men are buried at Hosanna church cemetery next to the entrance to Lincoln University's campus. "These men and their families anticipated that history would over look them and their role in transforming America, so they placed headstones, monuments to their lives next to our country's oldest degree-granting historically black University," says Dr. Gooch. "By placing their personal monuments there, they placed themselves into historical memory. In the absence of photographs, and virtually no written history about them, I considered how to resurrect

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Notes from the President...

As we wind down another fine year for OBCWRT, the future is bright with much planned to establish our Round Table as a pillar in the local and regional Civil War community. With the election this month we will welcome new members to our Board of Directors, bringing fresh input and enthusiasm to our mission. Our Fall membership drive continues, please encourage others to join us on our journey. Our Membership team has prepared letters to welcome new members. Remind everyone to like our Facebook page. When you do your Holiday shopping remember to use Amazon Smiles so our Round Table can get a few shekels.

Last month **Scott Mingus** explained the role the Second Battle of Winchester played in the Gettysburg Campaign. We are all now more informed about Major General Robert H. Milroy. To finish this year, **Dr. Cheryl Renee Gooch** will share her research on the "Black Civil War Soldiers of Chester County." Join us for a fine presentation about some local heroes. Over the upcoming Holiday Season, invite everyone you meet to visit us next year, as **Dave Gilson** has very good programs scheduled. We will begin next year with a presentation on Civil War Cartography by our webmaster, **Hal Jespersen**.

Sign up to volunteer to lay wreathes at Beverly Cemetery at noon on December 15th for Wreathes Across America (https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/16609/Overview/?relatedId=0). The Round Table has donated ten wreathes to this location. It is a fine opportunity to acknowledge those who have served. The birthday champagne toast to General George Gordon Meade, at his gravesite, will be at noon on December 31st at Laurel Hill Cemetery. Invite a friend to carpool to this annual end of the year event.

Be sure to let us know if you learn of plan events in the Spring where we can take our travel display to promote our Round Table.

As you will read in this newsletter, **Flat Old Baldy** made a trip overseas last month. Some of his fans have requested a visit to Oklahoma. Let us know if you want to take him on an adventure. Still seeking a member to assist

Steve Peters in preparing member profiles. Since we had

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them to finish telling their stories. Their pension files and other primary documents helped reconstruct their lives, evoke their voices and narratives of our shared history as Americans."

Dr. Cheryl Renée Gooch is an academic leader, published scholar and active historical researcher. She served as historian and primary writer for the Delaware History Museum's permanent exhibition, "Journey to Freedom" which chronicles the Black Delawarean experience from 1629 to the present.

An active member of the Toni Morrison Society Bench by the Road Project, Dr. Gooch led the effort to place the memorial bench at Hosanna Church which honors Hinsonville's Civil War veterans, the church's role in founding Lincoln University, and its members participation in Liberian colonization and the abolition of slavery.

A Life member of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), she serves on the Executive Council, and is a member of the organization's Carter G. Woodson House Committee which advises the National Park Service on interpretive themes for the historic site.

Dr. Gooch is author of On Africa's Lands: The Forgotten Stories of Two Lincoln Educated Missionaries in Liberia (published in 2014 by Lincoln University Press) which chronicles the experiences of James Amos and Thomas Amos, former Hinsonville residents. Her newest book, Hinsonville's Heroes: Black Civil War Soldiers of Chester County, Pennsylvania, interprets the lives of men from this free black community who served in the war to end slavery, and their families' efforts to ensure that they are remembered for their role in re-unifying this country.

Since its release, Hinsonville's Heroes has maintained active interest among both general and academic audiences and was recently featured on Pennsylvania Cable Network-TV's PA Books.

More from the Old Baldy CWRT Naval Symposium October 20, 2018

By Paul Prentiss, Member OBCWRT

"Where did you get those fantastic speakers?" were the first words a former shipmate asked when we met at a reception a few days after the October Civil War Naval Symposium. "What a professional outfit" another friend exclaimed when we started talking about the fun time we had aboard the Battleship NEW JERSEY. Both knew about my involvement with OBCRWT due to the constant reminders to purchase tickets, so they wanted to know how Old Baldy was able to put on such an impressive event. "Frank Barletta," was my two word reply and then added the Symposium committee Frank led really did a great job over the past 14 months. All their hard work and preparations were apparent. The speakers, musicians, re-enactors, venders, lunch and impressive venue all combined to make our Civil War Naval Symposium a successful professional and entertaining event. "Bravo Zulu," outstanding job to all involved!

a grand time on the USS New Jersey at the Civil War Naval Symposium, let's do another one in the Spring of 2020. Details on how you can assist will be available soon. At our meeting this month you will hear more about our Spring 2019 trip. Copies of the new Camden County Heritage Alliance magazine will also be available at the meeting.

Have a safe and joyous season in your travels and celebrating with family and friends. We look forward to seeing you next year.

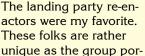
Join us at the Lamp Post diner for a pre-meeting meal with good conversation.

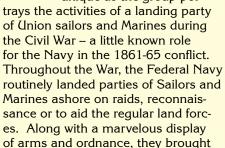
Rich Jankowski, President











along a boat howitzer! Yes – an honest-to-goodness, black power, fire belching, beauty of a cannon. To my delight, (and all the other "little" boys present), the crew gave a live fire demonstration every hour.

The speakers were all excellent. This was only through Frank's tenacity and patience were we able to book these nationally recognized authors. Their in-depth knowledge coupled with the ability to convey the story added a third dimension usually lacking from the typical ink and paper history book. I thoroughly enjoyed each one. Bruce Tucker's personalization of Admiral Dave Farragut leading his fleet between the two powerful Confederate batteries located inside of forts Morgan and Gaines was stirring, entertaining and educational. Not to be overlooked was the



fine boxed lunch, mealtime music entertainment and door/raffle prizes. These extras added so much to the overall experience. Other than standing on a 20th century warship, everyone could easily claim they were transported back to the 1860s. All of Frank's leadership and perseverance paid off big time. I wouldn't be surprised if this symposium receives recognition at the next Civil War Round table Congress for its superb group of speakers and venue.

Throughout the day I continued to think, WOW! I fully recognize the major amounts of coordination it takes to set **work to make an even better symposium for the future.**

Today in Civil War History

1861 Friday, December 13

Eastern Theater

In a sharp but inconclusive action at Camp Allegheny on Buffalo Mountain in western Virginia, troops from the 9th and 13th Indiana regiments, the 25th and 32nd Ohio regiments, and the 2nd West Virginia Regiment attack a rebel encampment. The Union force suffers 20 killed and 107 wounded, while the Confederates sustain 116 casualties, including 20 dead. Both sides retreat from the action, the Northern troops back to Cheat Mountain, and the rebels to Staunton in the Shenandoah Valley.

1862 Saturday, December 13

Eastern Theater

Burnside launches the attack against the Confederate positions around Fredericksburg. Franklin's Grand Division attacks Jackson's corps to the south of the city, while Sumner attacks to the north against Longstreet's corps. Franklin, by a misunderstanding of Burnside's orders, does not make an all-out assault but mounts what might be called a reconnaissance in force. Meade's division make the first assault, outpacing Gibbon's division, which is supposed to be in support. Federal troops manage to penetrate

a gap in Jackson's line, but Early's division is thrown in to fill the gap and the Federal troops are repulsed. By the time Burnside orders Franklin to launch a full-scale assault, the Grand Division commander considers it too late to make any change in his dispositions.

The battle of the north is very different. In repeated assaults, brigade after brigade from French's division and Hancock's division charge the guns and massed musketry of Longstreet's corps dug in on the wooded slopes of Marye's Heights. The slaughter is terrible. The final assault of the short December day is made by troops from Hooker's Grand Division, but they are no more successful in the face of the terrible Confederate small-arms fire. By the end of the day, the Army of the Potomac has lost 1200 killed, over 9000 wounded, and 2145 missing. Confederate losses are 570 killed, 3870 wounded, and 127 missing. Many of the Federal casualties have occurred at the sunken road and stone wall at the base of Marye's Heights, upon which so many brave assaults had been smashed. Lee, looking at so many Federal bodies on the small area of open ground before the heights, remarks, "It is well that war is so terrible; we should grow too fond of it."

1863 Sunday, December 13

Western Theater

At Knoxville it becomes apparent that Major-General Foster is incapable of exercising command owing to disability. Authority devolves on Parke, but he passes responsibility to Granger, who in turn unloads it on the prickly Major-General Sheridan.

1864 Tuesday, December 13

Western Theater

Elements of the US XV Corps assault Fort McAllister below Savannah. Attacking late in the afternoon, they capture the position for the loss of 24 killed and 110 wounded. Contact is now established with the fleet, and Sherman's army can be supplied by sea. Stoneman's cavalry defeat the remnants of Morgan's cavalry at Kingsport, east Tennessee. The sleet and snow continue at Nashville. Grant travels to Washington, intending to journey to Nashville himself. Meanwhile, he appoints Major-General John A. Logan to succeed Thomas.

1865 December

North Carolina, Georgia, and Oregon all approve the Thirteenth Amendment, although Mississippi rejects it. Oregon's decision on December II enables Secretary of State Seward to declare a week later that the Thirteenth Amendment is now in effect since it has been approved by 27 states.

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.

"Flat Old Baldy Tours the Emerald Isle"

by Joseph F. Wilson, Member OBCWRT

After an overnight flight to Ireland, Gerri, myself, and Flat Old Baldy checked into our hotel in Dublin, Ireland. Gerri and I were a bit tired, but Old Baldy seemed unfazed despite a long flight in the plane's 10 degree cargo hold. If the devastating impact of countless musket balls couldn't bring down General George Meade's old war horse, a frosty 7 hour flight would have little effect.

First up was a trip to the National Military Museum of Ireland in Dublin. I knew the military history of Ireland was



sure to recognize the famed Irish Brigade. The trek thru all the Irish wars finally brought us to a room celebrating the hard fighting Irish in the American Civil War. Behind the glass enclosures

were many artifacts, but the one that stood out was the guidon of the 116th Pa. Regiment. I couldn't help but wonder how Pennsylvania let that one get away.

Our guide spoke as if the Civil War couldn't have been won without the Irish Brigade. They are certainly proud of them and speak very highly of Colonel Thomas Meagher. No doubt they never heard of "The Pennsylvania Reserves." Sorry, I do have my own bias. The Irish Brigade flag was interesting and without question flapped in the breeze and occupied many battlefields alongside General Meade and Old Baldy.

The following day we boarded the bus for a visit to the Blarney Castle. All three of us (Gerri, myself, and you know who) carefully maneuvered the narrow stone spiral staircase to the top of the castle to reach the fabled Blarney Stone. The line was short and Gerri and I passed on kissing the Blarney Stone as you must lay down and contort your body in a way that didn't seem advisable for senior citizens. But yes, Old Baldy kissed the Blarney



Stone. One can only wonder if any other horse kissed the stone.

The next night we had dinner in an Irish pub and were entertained by Irish dancers. The Guinness Stout was flow-

ing freely and Old Baldy enjoyed the favorite Irish brew. A tour of the Tullamore Dew distillery in the quaint town of Tullamore showed the process of the triple distilled whiskey from start to finish. Everyone received a souvenir shot glass with a sample of the final product. Some non-drinkers were advised to dump their share into the glass of a

retired American who encouraged them not to waste it. And the retired American wasn't Gerri.



On two different occasions we had dinner in really cool castles. The ambiance was incredible as the costumed folks entertained us with singing accompanied by the beauti-

ful sounds of a harp. At one dinner we enjoyed a mug of Mead and hoisted our mugs for a toast. Mead is similar to wine but so much better. I'm not a wine drinker but I enjoyed that drink. My only experience with Mead is from the Bud Light Commercial. I will definitely try to see if any stores carry Mead.

If anyone decides to take Old Baldy to a restaurant in the future, I will caution you to remember this – he has dined on a sumptuous feast at several Medieval Castles where they called him "My Lord." I'm not saying he's spoiled, but

good luck with any future culinary endeavors.

At last we saw the great "Cliffs of Dover" where Flat Old Baldy nearly blew off the cliff and went crashing down 700 feet to the rocks. Just kidding Frank! But it was windy. General Meade's mount is now resting comfortably after a wonderful 8 day adventure that took us across the magnificent country of Ireland. Gerri and I had a great time and had some fun with Flat Old Baldy. Flat Stanley never had it so good.

The Irish people made the trip special as they were as beautiful as "The Emerald Isle." Peace and Cliffs of Moher, Ireland





Love to the people of Ireland.

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

"A Very Special Lighthouse Keeper"

by Kathy Clark, Member OBCWRT

As I was looking through old Civil War Magazines I came across an article about Ida Lewis. When Bob talked about her at our meeting I was interested in finding out a little more about this special lady. The wonderful tribute of having a street named for her at Arlington National Cemetery was an honor to a woman who so deserves this recognition. As people walk into the new section of the cemetery they will see her name and may want to find out Ida's history. She is a woman who would risk her life to help another. This is Ida's story......

Many families including husband, spouse and children were part of a long list of people who took care of lighthouses on the East Coast. In most cases the spouse and children



always learned their skills from their father, the lighthouse keeper. Some wives and daughters were called upon to take over the duties of the lighthouse if the keeper died or was disabled. Even though the wives or daughters took over the duties they were rarely given as much credit for their lighthouse skills as a male lighthouse keeper would receive. This was not the case for Ida Lewis and her hard-working family on Lime Rock Island.

Idawalley Zoradia Lewis was the exception and did get public

notice when it was time to take over the keeper's position. Ida (as she was called) was born in Newport, Rhode Island in 1842, the second of Hosea Lewis and Idawalley Willey's four children. In 1853, Ida's father became the first lighthouse keeper on Lime Rock Island, 500 yards off Newport. It was not until 1857 when a Greek Revival building was erected on Lime Rock to serve as lighthouse and keeper's home. Unfortunately, four months after the family took up



residence on the island, Ida's father had a stroke and Ida began caring for her father along with a seriously ill sister. While attending to her father and sister she began the duties of tending to the lighthouse. The following are some of the duties Ida had to do every day: trimming the wick, cleaning the carbon off the reflectors (sundown and midnight), filling the lamp with oil and every morning at dawn extinguishing

the light. There was no automated light here! At the same time Ida became very skilled in handling a rowboat which was an extremely heavy wooden boat. Her skills with oars was regularly tested starting at the age of 16 when she rescued four young men and their capsized sailboat, ironically, they could not swim. This was the first of many rescues that Ida did in her lifetime. She claimed "she could row a boat faster then any man in Newport", and was the best swimmer in the area.

On March 29, 1869, Ida saved the lives of Sergeant Adams and Private McLaughlin both from Fort Adams. Their boat capsized in the midst of a squal. Ida's fame spread quickly after this rescue. "Putman's Magazine", "The New York Tribune" and "Harper's Weekly" covered stories about Ida's rescues. For her







heroism Ida received a silver medal and a hundred dollars from the Life Saving Benevolent Association of New York. On Independence Day, at a local parade the people of Newport presented Ida with a mahogany rowboat called "The Rescue", with red velvet cushions, gold braid around the gun wales and gold-plated oarlocks. The soldiers of Fort Adams gave Ida a gold watch and chain. It was said that President Grant and Vice President Schuyler Colfax visited Ida on separate occasions in 1869. Colfax made the trip to the lighthouse but President Grant met her in the presidential carriage on the dock along with his wife, Julia. Ida was visited by women's rights champion Susan B. Anthony and many others. She became a champion for women's rights because many of the contributions of working women were overlooked, did not get credit for their accomplishments or equal pay.

In addition to gifts and letters, Ida received a number of marriage proposals along with references of good character. In 1870 she married William Heard Wilson, a fisherman and seaman from Black Rock, Connecticut. It lasted two years but she never divorced, using her maiden name for the rest of her life. In 1872, Ida's father died and her mother took over the lighthouse keepers' duties but Ida still performed her list of duties every day. In 1877, with a salary of \$500/year, Ida became the official lighthouse keeper of Lime Rock Light. She was rewarded the US Life Saving Service's highest medal for saving two soldiers who had been crossing between Fort Adams and the lighthouse on the ice and fell through. Grabbing a clothesline, she succeeded in hauling the men out of the water. The men had sheep in the boat which had fallen into the water. After the men were safely on shore Ida went back and rescued the sheep. Ida was 63 years old when she made her final rescue of a close friend. The friend was rowing toward the lighthouse when she stood in the rowboat, lost her balance, and fell into the water.

Ida was awarded a monthly pension of \$30 from the Carnegie Hero Fund and a gold medal from the American Red

Cross. She survived 54 years tending Lime Rock Light, credited with saving 18 lives, although the unofficial count could have been as high as 25. October, 1911, she suffered a stroke while on duty and died a month later. As a tribute the bells on all vessels in Newport harbor tolled in her memory. In 1924 the Rhode Island Legislation voted to change the name to Ida Lewis Lighthouse. It is the only time an honor like this was given to a keeper, male or female.

The Newport Yacht Club bought the light and restored the old lantern as a private aide to Navigation. By 1947, at least 145 women earned official lighthouse keeper appointments. When the lights became automated there were many who served as assistant lighthouse keepers. It was the dedica-



tion, courage, and honor of these women that helped insure the safety of all who were sailing in the waters off America's shores.

Seldom do we hear stories of courageous women who do a job like Ida Lewis as lighthouse keeper of Lime Rock. Ida was buried at Newport's Common Burying Ground but did not have a marker or headstone. Many years went by before an anchor and crossed oars were put on her grave.

More Lighthouse Keepers next Issue

White Roses... Civil War Nurses

Each Month I would like you to meet some of these heroic women.

Nurses were not part of the Armies, There was no Nursing Corps. These were women who went off to contribute their efforts to helping the wounded, dying and ill. They helped in Hospitals, Battlefields and Camps. There are very few records and photographs of these brave women so the accounts are few.

Anna Morris Ellis Holstein

Anna was born in Muncy, Pennsylvania on April 9, 1824, to



Rebecca and William Ellis. In 1848, Anna became the bride of Major William H. Holstein. They settled on a small farm in the Upper Merion region of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Anna and her husband worked with the Merion Soldiers' Aid Society as volunteers caring for the wounded and serving as United States Sanitary Commission agents. The couple served at Antietam in Dr. Letterman's

Smoketown Hospital by nursing and cooking, as well as writing

Anna Morris Ellis Holstein

letters for those who were too weak.

Anna authored Three Years in Field Hospitals of the Army of the Potomac, which was published anonymously in 1867. She served as a regent of the Valley Forge Centennial and Memorial Association before her death in Bridgeport, Pennsylvania on December 31, 1900.

Cornelia Peaka McDonald

Cornelia McDonald cared for Confederate wounded in Winchester, Virginia. Asked to wash a wounded Tennessee captain, Cornelia nearly fainted when she saw him:

A ball had struck him on the side of the face, taking away both eyes, and the bridge of his nose. My faint-



ness increased and I had to stop and lean against the wall to keep from falling...l feel assured l shall never feel horrified at anything that may happen to me hereafter...l could stand by and see a man's head taken off I believe—you get so used to it here.... Amputations, it is a melancholy sight, but you have no idea how soon one gets used to it. Their screams of agony do not make as much an

impression on me as the reading of this letter will on you.

Cornelia Peake McDonald

Nothing more is known about Cornelia McDonald other than the above quote found in a letter written to a friend in Richmond, Virginia.

Mary Ann Brown Newcomb

Mary volunteered her nursing services at the onset of the War Between the States. Although she was offered a sal-

ary on several occasions, she refused it:

I have a commission from a higher power than any on earth, and you need not interfere. I shall go where I please and stay as long as I please... I will accept no commission from anyone... When the doctors don't want me they will say so and I will go, but you can't give me a commission. I am doing the work my husband wished me to do when he died.

Mary Ann Brown Newcomb

Mary's history also is

virtually unknown. The tidbits of letters found written to friends behind the lines are the only records of her nursing service. Her letters include tales of nurses behind the battle lines, "nurses sickened at the sight of amputated"

limbs, thrown out of one of the windows of the operating room until they made a pile five feet high just as they fell." She continued: "[We] walked out on battle-fields where the dead and dying lay so thick that we might have walked a mile with every step on a dead body."

She wrote on one occasion of attempting to care for a critically ill patient and being chastised by a ward master for staying up past nine o'clock. Knowing how important her duty to the soldier was, Mary responded that she was no hired nurse and that she would break the rules whenever humanity demanded it. She suggested that the ward master mind his business and she would attend to hers.

Mary helped to catch two surgeons who were secretly selling hospital supplies to civilians. The doctors were dismissed and two others were demoted. Mary was proud of her part in the breaking of the black market ring.

Maria Hall

Maria Hall was rejected by Dorothea Dix because of her youth. She was accepted at the Indiana Hospital in Washington in Iuly 1861. A year later, Maria was transferred to the Daniel Webster, a United States Sanitary Commission transport vessel. She worked only one month on the Daniel Webster and then transferred to the Eliza Harris at Harrison's Landing. Maria helped to care for the wounded from the Peninsula Campaign and Antietam.

In November 1862 Maria was reassigned to Smoketown General Hospital in Maryland, where she served for one year. In August 1863, Maria became responsible for the tent hospital at the Naval Academy facility. Nine months later, she was appointed superintendent of the Naval Academy Hospital, a position that she held until August 1865, when the facility closed. During her tenure as a nurse, Maria treated many of the prisoners released from the Andersonville Prison as well as the



wounded from both sides. The date of her demise, like the date of her birth, is unknown.

Editor's Note: These stories are from a book "White Roses... Stories of Civil War Nurses. Authored by Rebecca D. Larson. Available on Amazon.

"General Confusion at Gettysburg"

During the Gettysburg Campaign, the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia had between them a remarkable 118 generals, 65 in the former and 53 in the latter. The Army of the Potomac had 14 major generals of volunteers, the highest rank in U.S. service. These included the army commander himself, the chief of staff, eight corps commanders, and four division commanders. There were also 51 brigadier generals. The brigadiers command-

ed 18 divisions, including the three of cavalry. Of S0 infantry and six cavalry brigades, half of each were led by brigadier generals and half by colonels. There were also five brigadiers at army headquarters in various staff positions, such as provost marshal general and the like. In contrast, the Army of Northern Virginia had one full general in command, plus one lieutenant general for each of the three corps. There were eleven major generals, one for each division, including the cavalry, plus a spare at headquarters. Of 37 infantry brigades, brigadiers commanded all but six, which were led by colonels, while in the cavalry there were six brigadier generals leading brigades and one colonel. There were about 1,430 troops for each general in the Army of the Potomac, and some 1,300 for each general in the Army of Northern Virginia. Adding in the colonels serving in command of brigades, the ratios fall to about 1.010 men for each of the 92 general officer posts in the Army of the Potomac and 1,165 for each of the 60 general officer posts in the Army of Northern Virginia. These figures may seem excessive by modern standards, but were quite normal for the times; Indeed, at Waterloo the French Army had something like one general for every 750 men. Communications were much more difficult and it was necessary to have more rank at lower levels. Indeed, the somewhat lower proportion of troops to generals probably gave the Army of the Potomac a useful, if small, advantage, since it was possible to supervise the troops more closely. In 1863 generals actually led their troops into action, as demonstrated by their casualty rates during the battle: five Confederate and four Union generals were killed or mortally wounded during the battle, and a dozen Confederate and thirteen Union generals were less seriously wounded, making for a Confederate general officer casualty rate of 32 percent and a Union one of 26 percent. Of colonels leading brigades, the Union lost four killed and seven wounded, the Confederacy six wounded. So 30 percent of the Union officers holding brigade or higher commands became casualties, as did 38 per-cent of their Confederate counterparts, exclusive of men taken prisoner. So during the Civil War generals were not a good actuarial risk.

North&South, February 1998

Civil War Veterans in the Land of the Pharaohs

One of the adder footnotes to the Civil War is what might be termed "the Egyptian Connection."

During the early nineteenth century Egypt began to awaken from ages of foreign domination under the able leadership of Mehemet Ali and his offspring. When Ali's grandson, Ismail Pasha, became Khedive (1863-1879) under Turkish over lordship, in keeping with the family tradition, he sought to expand his army in order to extend

his rule into East

The Khedive



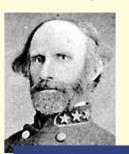


Africa and Ethiopia, and, incidentally, to strengthen himself with an eye to-wards overthrowing Turkish sovereignty. The Khedive needed seasoned officers, but reason-ably concluded that recruiting such from Britain or France, to whom he was already heavily indebted, might result in acquiring British or French suzerainty.

As a result, when the Civil War in America ended, he quickly realized the potential for recruit-

ing from among its veterans. Nor was Ismail disappointed. Although his choice for army commander, Confederate General Pierre G.T. Beauregard, turned him down, his efforts were not in vain. Many former prominent Civil War officers gave serious consideration to his offer, Fitz John Porter and George Pickett among them, and a goodly number accepted.

The most prominent former Union officer in Egyptian service was unquestionably former Union Brigadier General Charles P. Stone. Stone had at bad time during the Civil War, it being his misfortune to command at Ball's Bluff October 21, 1861). So disastrously had this little skirmish turned out that he was suspected of treachery, was relieved and then imprisoned for over six months. Although later restored to active duty, he saw little active service. He was mustered out of the Volunteer Army in 1864 and shortly thereafter resigned his Regular Army commission as well. Stone entered the Khedive's service as a lieutenant colonel in 1870, and rose to become a lieutenant general and chief of staff of the army, retiring in 1883, after the brief war with Britain in 1882, to return to the United States, where he later helped design the base of the Statue of Liberty. No American officer served in the Egyptian Army longer than did Stone, but many others made important contributions.



Sibley

Loring

The most prominent former Confederate officer in Egyptian service was Brigadier General Henry Hopkins Sibley, who had a decidedly lackluster Civil War, its high point being his unsuccessful invasion of New Mexico in 1861-1862, during which he managed to miss all the battles. Sibley entered the Khedive's service in 1869

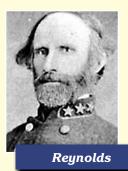
and remained until 1879, rising in the meanwhile to pasha and Chief of Artillery with rank as a

major general. He then returned to the United States, where he attempted to make a living as a lecturer, but died in poverty in 1886.

Former Confederate Major General William W. Loring enlisted with the Khedive in 1869 and in ten years service was twice decorated and rose

to pasha and major general, commanding in the Khedive's abortive effort to conquer Abyssinia in 1875-1876. He later returned to

the United States and lived in retirement until his death in 1886. Loring's chief of staff before the Abyssinian Campaign was former Confederate Brigadier General Alexander W. Reynolds, who entered Egyptian service in 1869 along with



his son Frank. Both men rose to colonel before the elder died of disease in 1876 and the son returned to the United States. Raleigh E. Colston, another former Confederate brigadier, served from 1869 to 1879, rising to colonel and leading an important exploration expedition in the Sudan, during which he was paralyzed from

the waist down when a camel fell on him. Undaunted, the gallant Colston nevertheless continued in command for several months, later returning to the United States, where he lived on the fringes of poverty for the rest of his life, dy-

ing in 1896.



Colston

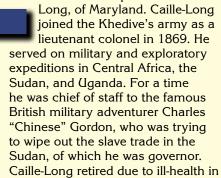
Caille-Long

William McEntire Dye, a Union colonel and brevet brigadier general, was in Egypt from 1873 to 1878, rising to

colonel. Wounded whilst serving under Loring in Abyssinia, Dye wrote a book about his service in Egypt, and later compound-

ed his rather adventurous life by serving as military advisor to the King of Korea, for whom he wrote a military treatise.

Perhaps the greatest adventures of any of the Civil War veterans who entered Egyptian service were those of former Union Capt. Charles Caille-



1877, with the title of bey and the rank of colonel.

These men helped to reorganize and reform the Egyptian Army, and made significant contributions to the development of the Khedive's forces. Unfortunately, Ismail's efforts at modernization created problems with Egypt's reactionary Muslim religious community, and was viewed with suspicion by the Sublime Porte. As a result, in 1879 he was deposed in favor of his ineffective son Tewfik. In the wave of anti-foreign agitation which accompanied this palace revolt, most of the American and other foreign officers left Egyptian service. When Britain invaded the country in 1882, the fledgling Egyptian Army which they had helped create was defeated and disbanded.

North&South, April 1999

Join us at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, December 13th, at Camden County College, Blackwood Campus, Connector Building, Room 101.

The Fighting Irishman

A fellow officer once wrote of Colonel Michael W. Burns: "He embraced danger as a friend. The excitement of battle was like breath to his nostrils." Unfortu-



nately, Burns fought his fellow Unionists as often as he did the enemy.

Before the war the Ireland native worked as a fire inspector in New York City while serving as a volunteer in Hudson River Engine Company 53. After the Civil War broke out, Burns and a fellow firefighter recruited men for a company that would be officially designated as Company A, 73rd New York Infantry (2nd Fire Zouaves); Burns was mustered in as its captain on August 14, 1861. By early 1863 Burns, who survived a severe wound during the Second Manassas Campaign, had ascended to the command of the regiment. Major Henry E. Tremain of the 73rd declared that "no man ever lived who could have led this regiment more gallantly and efficiently in all its subsequent battles and arduous experiences."

But a more sinister side to Burns had emerged by the time of his promotion to the head of the 73rd: he had a fondness for drink and a propensity for violence. On February 10, 1863, Father Joseph B. O'Hagan, the brigade chaplain, concluded his daily diary entry with the following observation: "Drunkenness gave us another fine exhibition in camp to-day. Our new Lt. Col. [Burns] returned his new shoulder straps—came into camp bossy—



calls somebody a son of a bitch—The compliment is returned— then the gallant Col. uses his sword- then the soldier his fists.
Grand Army of the Potomac!!!"

73rd NY Fire Zouaves Monument at Gettysburg

Nevertheless, the Fire Zouaves fought well under Burns' leadership. On the evening of May 2, 1863, at Chancel-

lorsville, the New Yorkers repulsed three enemy assaults, and two months later they fought valiantly in the Peach Orchard at Gettysburg. It was after the latter battle that Burns perpetrated the most heinous act of his army ca-

reer. Burns entered the Breckenridge Street home of Mrs. Mary Wade (the mother of Mary Virginia "Jennie" Wade, the only civilian killed during the battle) while "grossly intoxicated," and—for reasons unkown—violently assaulted the Reverend Walter S. Alexander, a delegate of the United States Christian Commission. An enraged Burns pressed a pistol to the reverend's head and threatened to blow his brains out. He then drew his sword and slashed Alexander in the head and thigh, inflicting serious injury.

The gritty Irishman maintained his command of the Fire Zouaves and led them through the bloody spring campaign of 1864. During the Battle of the Wilderness, a small group of Confederate prisoners approached the regiment. As they passed by, Burns overheard one of the officers urging the men to over-power the guard detail. Grasping a musket, Burns rushed over to the ringleader and drove a bayonet through his body. A couple of weeks later, following the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Major S. Octavius Bull, provost marshal of the II Corps, ordered his assistant, Captain Alexander McCune, to round up stragglers. Near Milford Station, McCune discovered Burns sitting on a stoop and talking with the occupant of the house. Citing his orders from Major Bull, the captain instructed the absent officer to rejoin his regiment. "Tell Major Bull that I am in command of the rear guard and that he is a damned fool," snapped Burns.

Prior to this confrontation, a dispute had erupted between Burns and Captain Charles Young, a brigade staff officer. When Burns threatened to give him a thrashing, the captain drew his sword and held his adversary at bay. Later in the day, the simmering colonel tracked him down and demanded to know "if he was a better man than he was this morning." Burns chastised Young for never being in a

fight, called him "a damned cowardly son of a bitch," and then struck him across the chest. After a brief scuffle, the provost guard subdued both of the combatants.

The next morning a general court martial found Burns guilty of neglect of duty and of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and sentenced him to be cashiered from the service. However, in a letter to President Abraham Lincoln dated July 2, 1864, Major General David Birney pointed out that the accused had always "conducted himself with great bravery and efficiency" and recommended a remission of the sentence. Major General George G. Meade and President Lincoln approved this request.

Remarkably, just two weeks earlier during the initial assaults upon Peters- burg, an intoxicated Burns had been involved in a heated confrontation with a group of soldiers from the 70th New York. He challenged any comers to a fight and when no one accepted, the drunken officer punched and kicked Captain John N. Coyne. Although charges and specifications were filed, there is no record of a subsequent trial.

To his credit, Burns served through- out the duration of the war without further incident. In fact, two months after being mustered out on June 29, 1865, he received a commission to brevet colonel for gallant service during the siege of Petersburg and at the Battle of Sayler's Creek. After the war, Burns secured a position as a port warden and later as a harbor master in New York City, where he died of kidney disease on December 7, 1883, at the age of forty-eight. He was eulogized as "a lion-hearted soldier, a fervent patriot, a fond husband, and a trusty friend.

by Michael Dreese Kreamer North&South, July 2003

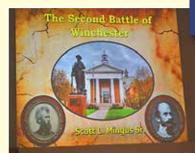
November 8th Meeting

The Second Battle of Winchester: The Confederate Victory That Opened the Door to Gettysburg

by Kathy Clark

June, 1863, summer crops were ripening in the fields of Pennsylvania and the Confederate troops were marching East through the valley. The Shenandoah Valley was very important to the Confederate army because the soil was its richest asset keeping the army fed while marching. Victory was seen on Northern soil but it was the Union Army who tried taking pressure off the farmers by diverting attention from Vicksburg trying to protect Union Railroad and supply communication. Major General Sheridan raided this valley basically to lessen the area's ability to supply the Confederate forces. These solders accelerated their cries for peace.

Lt. General Richard Ewell was coming from the Shenandoah Valley toward Harrisburg, nearly destroying the Federal garrison commanded by Major General Robert Milroy. In two days of fighting they captured nearly 4000 Union soldiers and marched into Winchester to occupy the town. This was one time of many that rebels pass through Chester Gap into the town of Winchester, Virginia changing hands at least seventy times throughout the war. As you can





Scott Mingus



Continued on page 11

see Winchester was a key strategic position for the Confederate Army.

Defenders of Winchester was the first division, Eighth Corps, Middle Department was Major General Robert H. Milroy's force of 6900 in three infantry brigades. Mil-



roy known as "The Old Grey Eagle", was a friend of Lincoln and hated men from the Military Academy. The truth of the matter was that Milroy was not as experienced as maybe someone who graduated from West Point or other military academies. Milroy was told many times to withdraw his troops to a safe place away from the Confederate army but he never followed through on that order.

Milroy vs. McReynolds was stationed at Berryville outside of Winchester. Milroy did not like McReynolds and wanted him out of Winchester. McReynolds was a political general who had a force of 1800 men with little or no experience. It was Milroy who told McReynold's brigade, in Berryville, evacuate Winchester if he heard the firing of heavy artillery guns. At the time Winchester was heavily fortified by forts around the town and turnpikes entering the town. Battery #2 was Fort Milroy called the "Main Fort". It was Milroy and his troops who improved the fort. Battery #3 was "Star Fort" also improved by Milroy and equipped with eight guns, and Battery #5 was called "West Fort".

June 13, 1863, rebels approached Winchester from Front Royal. It was Johnson's division, moving on the Front Royal Pike, until the division was stalled under fire from Fort Milroy's heavy guns. Johnson held this position until the arrival of Early's division. Ewell's division was moving north on the Valley Pike and pushed back Federal troops at the Valley Pike toll-gate, where they had to stop to pay the toll, even though they were in the middle of a battle. Federal forces retreated to the North. Milroy had all his men in the three forts defending the town. In Washington, Lincoln ordered the evacuation of the town but Milroy was confident that his fortifications would withstand a siege. He wanted to fight.

Confederate troops approached the town in three columns. Ewell wanted to cut off Milroy's only escape route and it was Rhodes Division which were able to do just that. The Confederate's were able to cut the telegram line into Winchester as a result Milroy's only line of communication was eliminated. Rhodes Division did reach Martinsburg and captured the town. To make matters worse, on June 13 a storm arose and drenched Winchester all night long. The next day Early's forces had gained a position opposite West Fort placing guns around the fort. Milroy was unaware that they were totally surrounded and cut off. As night approaches, Milroy decide to "cut their way through" to get to Harper's Ferry. Milroy and his troops quietly left during the night. Early and his Confederate soldiers did not know they were gone until morning. Milroy and officers celebrated apparent success! By dawn, June 15, Johnson encountered the head of Milroy's retreating column and prepares to fight his way out of the "trap". Early secretly flanks the Union forces by moving Harp, Smith and Avery to the left,



Gordon and Johnson went south and east of the town. Ironically Milroy was in a valley around 110-foot hills. He could not see beyond the hills so he decides to climb up an 80-foot flag pole in a basket but could not see any rebel movement. It was the low ridges that screened Early's movement.

By June 15, Milroy makes a nighttime escape attempt, 2am retreat, but leaves behind the wounded, the artillery, women and children to attempt to get to Harper's Ferry by Carter's Woods but was not successful. Johnson and his regiment

were along Milburn Road and put two guns on either side of Charlestown Road Railroad bridge. By Dawn the Union Forces tried attacks against the bridge and railroad. It was the Confederate forces who crushed the final Union attack. This was the final movements of the Confederates to regain the town. Milroy and his division showed a white flag and scattered in various directions with some escaping into Harper's Ferry. The court of inquiry asked why Milroy disobeyed Lincoln's order to "evacuate Winchester"? The battle may have ended differently for the Confederate troops if Milroy had left the town. As it was the Confederate troops cleared the valley and opened the door for Lee to invade the North toward Pennsylvania and the town of Gettysburg.

Interesting fact: Rock Enon Springs Resort was operating during the Civil War built around a mineral water spring. It contained six medicinal springs. This area became a popular place for people to heal various ailments by soaking in the springs, "medicine waters". During the Civil War solders would be filling their canteens with the spring water. The solders thought by drinking this water they would live forever. That's what made the area around Winchester so important for so many people and was an important resort town. The hotel survived the Civil War.

Thank You to Scott Mingus for a very informative history of a battle that we do not know a lot about. This presentation brought this information to the forefront as the forces continued their way to Gettysburg.

Battle At Lake Chicot

War On The River:
The Mississippi Marine Brigade

By Arthur G. Sharp CWT, October 1982

On the morning of June 5, 1864, Confederate scouts raced into guerrilla head-quarters at Lake Village, Arkansas. They reported to the 3d Missouri Cavalry's Colonel Colton Green that twelve Union vessels were sailing up the Mississippi River toward their camp. Green was not surprised, but he was concerned. Within a few hours, he would be engaged against superior odds in the Battle of Lake Chicot, Arkansas. Lake Chicot, a half-mile wide and fifteen miles long, had once been a bend in the Mississippi River. The lake was surrounded by bayous, forests,

"Currie dispatched a detachment of Marines, one artillery piece, and the 2d Wisconsin Cavalry . . . as soon as his flagship dropped anchor. '

and heavy undergrowth, terrain that provided perfect cover for these Confederate guerrillas operating out of Lake Village. They were the tiny command of Brigadier General John S. Marmaduke, a tactician who had won plaudits raiding in Missouri with Sterling Price's Confederate cavalry. Here, along the Mississippi his men harassed Union vessels ferrying troops and supplies up and down the river. And their "hit and run" tactics, Marmaduke's patented specialty, were a perpetual source of aggravation to the enemy. Time and time again, they ambushed Union forces, melted into the country-side, and

tied up the enemy detachments that futilely tried to track them down.

By June 1864, these Confederates had become such a nuisance that Union Major General A. J. Smith vowed to drive

them from the area once and for all, and he assembled a large expedition to accomplish the task. But this turned out to be far from easy. The Union force consisted of parts of the army's XVI and XVII Corps, commanded by Brigadier General Joseph A. Mower, one artillery battery, a cavalry de-

Major General USA Andrew Jackson Smith

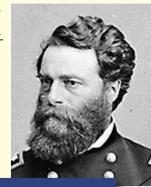
tachment, and the

Mississippi Marine Brigade, led by Lieutenant Colonel George E. Currie. Paradoxically, the men from this last unit, the Marine Brigade, were neither Marines nor from Mississippi. They were mounted soldiers operating from transports cruising the Mississippi River in search of guerrillas.

When the Marines found their tormentors, they disembarked and, on horseback, chased the Confederates into the interior. Since the Marines were often successful at thwarting guerrillas, Smith was fond of them. He assigned them a key role in his battle plan for Lake Chicot.

The general's expedition sailed from Vicksburg, Mississippi, on June 4, 1864. The destination for his 10,000 men and twenty-six transports and gunboats—more

than twice the number Green's scouts counted-



Brigadier General USA Joseph Anthony Mower

was Sunnyside Landing, Arkansas, ninety miles upriver from Vicksburg and eight miles east of Lake Village. Marmaduke was away on assignment; Green had only 600 men to oppose the enemy. But this Confederate was confident despite the odds.

The first Federal transports reached Sunnyside Landing at 5 p.m. on June 5. Once there, Union commanders wasted no

Brigadier General CSA

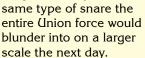
John Sappington Marmaduke

time before seeking the Rebels. Currie dispatched a detachment of Marines, one artillery piece, and the 2d Wisconsin Cavalry on a reconnaissance mission

as soon as his flagship dropped anchor. The advance party met Green's pickets about a mile from the landing. The Confederates were easy to find-deliberately so. Green was not a man who avoided combat. Like Marmaduke, he was a shrewd tactician who relied on hit and run maneuvers to offset superior numbers of enemy troops. So his chief concern at Lake Chicot was not numbers; it was the limited time he had to prepare for the coming battle. He had no intention of engaging in lengthy fighting that evening. Neither did Currie. Both commanders merely wanted to test one another's strength and strategy. Also, the weather was not suited for combat. Dusk and clouds settled in rapidly. The two officers would only use the remaining day- light for a brief skirmish.

Green posted his pickets conspicuously at a bridge over a small bayou. And they were on the same side as the approaching Union troops when the two forces met. The

> Federal party attacked the pickets immediately and drove them easily across the bridge. The retreating Confederates dashed across an open field and took shelter in a stand of timber. A larger detachment of Confederates, hidden from Currie's forces, reinforced the rines did not suspect that they



retreating pickets there. The Mawere heading into a trap—the same type of snare the Lieutenant Colonel USA George Earl Currie

Currie decided to dislodge the guerrillas. He dismounted his command, placed his howitzer in an enfilade position, and prepared to advance. The howitzer opened fire; the Confederates moved deeper into the timber. The Marines dashed across the bridge and occupied a sheltered posi-



"The Federals advanced about 200 yards. Suddenly, a 'hissing rain of bullets,' as Currie described it, came from behind the levee. " devised a simple plan: Through the rough country he would draw the Union troops toward Ditch Bayou in a series of running skirmishes. When they reached the bayou with their lines distended, he would rake them with artillery and musket fire. However,

for the scheme to succeed he would have to spend the night moving his troops into position. If they hurried, when dawn arrived the Confederates would be ready to spring their trap.

At 6 a.m., the Union troops began marching out of Sunnyside Landing with Currie's Marines and a small detachment of cavalry in front scouting for guerrillas. They did not have to look far: Colonel John A. Burbridge's mounted regiment met Currie's patrol only two miles from Sunnyside Landing. Then a second Rebel regiment, commanded by Colonel Jesse Ellison, moved up to protect Burbridge's right. But they discovered quickly that they were skirmishing with more than a small patrol. The entire Union force was moving toward them. However, they were undeterred and well prepared — and the weather came to their aid.

To be Continued Next Issue

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

tion in the woods directly across from the Confederates. Once again, the guerrillas retreated. This time, they left the timber and raced across another open field in the direction of Lake Chicot. The field was separated from the lake by a high levee, placed there for protection against high waters. A few Marines gave chase, just as the Confederates wanted them to

The handful of Marines advanced unchallenged. Their daring encouraged Currie to launch a full attack. He gave the order; the Federals advanced about 200 yards. Suddenly, a "hissing rain of bullets," as Currie described it, came from behind the levee. The Confederates had hidden another group of reinforcements there. As Green planned, the Marines had charged directly, and blindly, toward them. Currie, reacting quickly to avert a disaster, sounded the retreat; the Marines, aided by the falling darkness, escaped with only four wounded. They had accomplished their mission by locating the enemy. But as they left the field and the last bit of day-light faded, they heard two noises: raindrops and approaching Confederate artillery. Both would play miserably on them the next day.

The Confederates did not rest that night. They placed four guns on the north side of a bayou next to the western bank of Lake Chicot. The bayou known as Ditch or Fish Bayou to most locals, had only one route across it—a narrow, rickety bridge. The four guerrilla guns set their range for it, for Green believed it would be the key to the conflict.

Back at the Federal landing site Currie worried about the impending battle. He did not like Smith's strategy, especially in view of Green's tactics that evening. Currie was somewhat familiar with the terrain around the lake, and he had been fighting Marmaduke's guerrillas long enough to know that they would not fight a conventional battle. He had tried to warn Smith. "When the plans for the fight were made, I gave General Smith some idea of this querilla [sic] fighting and suggested Capt. G.C. Fisher of Co. E to act as his special aid [sic]. [Fisher] was thoroughly posted on the topography of the country and the guerilla strategies, and he strenuously advised against advancing the infantry to the bayou, as it was impassable, and [there was] no protection against a concealed and sheltered foe, save here and there a fence or underbrush and weeds. But the general thought he knew best." As it turned out, Currie's fears were justified. Green had anticipated the Union troops' route. Their approach would be up Old Lake Road, which ran parallel to the lake. In order to reach the guerrillas, they would have to cross the bridge over Ditch Bayou. So the colonel

THE CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE
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Classes planned for the at Manor College for Spring 2019 are:

Civil War Institute Classes
An Overview of 1862 (Herb Kaufman) – 1 night
Lincoln's Humor (Hugh Boyle) – 1 night
The Battle of Chattanooga (Jerry Carrier) – 1 night
The Battle of Stones River (Walt Lafty) – 1 night
NYC During the Civil War (Pat Caldwell) – 1 night
Weapons & Tactics (Herb Kaufman)Herb – 2 nights
The Legend of Stonewall Jackson (Jerry Carrier) – 1 night

Military History Institute Classes
Women at War from the Revolution and Beyond
(Paula Gidjunis) – 1 night
The Alamo and Texas Revolution (Steve Wright) – either 1
or 2 nights
Story of the Atomic Bomb (Herb Kaufman) – 1 night
The Graf Spee and the Bismarck (Lance Lacey) – either 1
or 2 nights

The full schedule will be available on the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table website www.dvcwrt.org and Case Shot & Canister newsletter, on the RT's Facebook page, and on the Manor College website https://manor.edu/academics/adult-continuing-education/civil-war-institute/ and https://manor.edu/academics/adult-continuing-education/military-history-institute/ as soon as the dates have been confirmed.



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Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2019 January 10 - Thursday Hal Jespersen "Civil War Cartography" February 14 - Thursday **Martha Moore** "Washington Roebling and the Roebling's Civil War Connections' March 14 - Thursday **Dave Prentiss** "Saving Democracy: Lincoln's Political Religion and the American Pursuit of Justice' April 11 - Thursday Bill Vossler "Major General George H. Thomas - Time and History will do me Jusitice." **Questions to** Dave Gilson - 856-323-6484 - ddsghh@comcast.net Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia Camden County College **Blackwood Campus - Connector Building** Room 101 Forum, Civic Hall, Atrium 856-427-4022 oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net Founded January 1977 President: Richard Jankowski Vice President: Kathy Clark Annual Memberships Treasurer: Frank Barletta **Students: \$12.50** Secretary: Bill Hughes Individuals: \$25.00 **Programs: Dave Gilson Families: \$35.00 Trustees: Paul Prentiss** Rosemary Viggiano **Dave Gilson** Editor: Don Wiles - cwwiles@comcast.net