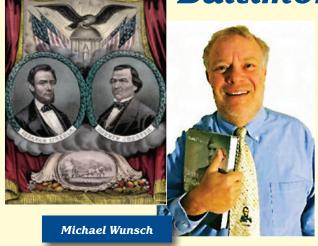
"Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson and the National Union Party Convention, Baltimore, June 7-8, 1864"



Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, February 13th, at Camden County College. This month's topic is "Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson & the National Union Party Convention, Baltimore, June 7-8, 1864"

Michael discusses the proceedings and key players of the two-day convention held at the Front Street Theater in Baltimore, including an overview of the National Union Party platform, the re-nomination of President Lincoln, and Abraham Lincoln's role (or non-role) as master 'wire puller' behind the decision to replace the sitting vice-president Hannibal Hamlin with lifelong Democrat Andrew Johnson.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Michael has been a resident of Philadelphia since 1966, graduated from La Salle College in 1980, and is employed by a Social Services company in Blue Bell, PA. He has been speaking on Civil War topics since 2002 including 'Abraham Lincoln & the Great Central Sanitary Fair", "Philadelphia and the Surrender of Robert E. Lee", and "The Palmetto Flag, A Secessionist Newspaper in Philadelphia". Michael is a member of the Delaware Valley CWRT, the GAR Civil War Museum & Library, the Lincoln Forum, and is currently the Corresponding Secretary for the General Meade Society of Philadelphia.

Notes from the President...

As we begin the second month of our 44rd year, we continue moving forward and spreading our message in South Jersey. We lost founding member **Mike Cavanaugh** last month. See the tribute to Mike in this newsletter with comments from many of our long-time members. The Round Table made a donation to the Battlefield Trust in Mike's name. The memorial service for Mike Cavanaugh will be on February 8th. We welcome our new members and invite them to join us on our various projects this year. Together we will grow our Round Table and continue to honor Mike.

All in attendance at our meeting last month enjoyed learning about our fellow members during the "Members Sharing" event. **Dave Gilson** will schedule another session for those who were unable to present. This month **Mike Wunsch** will visit to tell us about the 1864 National Union Party Convention in Baltimore that re-nominated President Lincoln. Bring a friend to hear his presentation.

Remember to send your dues to **Frank Barletta** to fund the various projects we are undertaking this year.

The MACBA committee is preparing to read and review the books for this year's *Michael A. Cavanaugh Book Award*. Our next trip to visit Old Baldy at the Grand Army of the Republic Museum will be on March 1. **Rich Rosenthal** will be speaking on "Civil War Women of Compassion." Sign up for our carpool at the meeting on the 13th.

With Spring on the horizon, it brings opportunities to set up our information display. Let us know if you would like to serve on our *Display Team* to disseminate our material and market our maps to the public. We are also seeking several members to interview other members to write profiles for our newsletter and website. Our *History Committee* working to document our past to be ready for our 45th anniversary in two years.

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Today in Civil War History

1862 Thursday, February 13

Western Theater

Floyd finally arrives at Fort Donelson, even as Grant launches his attack. McClernand's division is on the left while Smith attacks from the right, although the absence of the gunboats mean this is not a full-strength assault. However, three Illinois regiments try to carry a Confederate redoubt by frontal assault and aredriven back. Federal artillery bombards Fort Donelson through the day, and continues into the night, forcing the Confederates to stand to in the trenches. An added complication to both sides is the weather, which until now has been unseasonably mild for February. However, a sudden unforeseen change brings snow and sleet, which makes the night a trial for the unsheltered soldiers.

Southern troops at Bowling Green are in danger of being cut off by the action at Fort Donelson, and begin to withdraw from the town.

1863 Friday, February 13

Eastern Theater

General Hooker makes a change to the Army of the Potomac which will be of supreme importance later in the war. Union Cavalry had been scattered amongst the Grand Divisions, but in the reorganization of the army it is collected into a separate cavalry corps. This will eventually grow into a powerful arm which will at last be able to take on the swashbuckling Confederate cavalrymen like leb Stuart. However, the one thing lacking is a commander fit to wield the weapon, and it will be some time before the new Northern Cavalry organization begins to match its potential.

1864 Saturday, February 13

The South

Confederate forces assemble in Florida in response to the Union invasion. At Lake City 4600 infantry, 600 cavalry, and I2 guns are now ready under the command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan. At Hilton Head General Gillmore issues a proclamation announcing the occupation of Florida, calling on the people to take the oath of allegiance to the Union. But Seymour remains unconvinced that there is much pro-Union sympathy in Florida and marches histroops toward the Suwanee River to break down the bridges.

1865 Monday, February 13

England

Lord John Russell complains to Federal commissioners about the increased US military presence on the Great Lakes. The US action is in response to the St Albans raid of October 1864, the perpetrators of which have been released for lack of evidence. Canadian authorities are very anxious about this display of American strength, and demand extra British troops and improvements to Canadian defenses along the St Lawrence.

The Old Baldy Members Meet "Old Baldy" at The Gar Museum

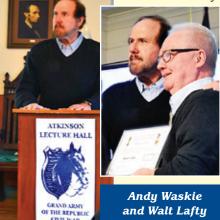


By Kathy Clark, Member OBCWRT

The weather was rainy and damp but inside the GAR Museum was warm and inviting. We were

welcomed by Andy Waskie and Walt Lafty as our group arrived. We had some time to investigate the many interest-

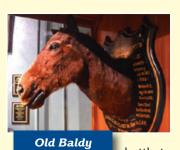
ing artifacts in the museum as we waited for Andy to give us a brief



history of our namesake "Old Baldy" or "Baldy" as he was known during the time he was in the many battles of the Civil War. After being wounded at the Battle of Bull Run, Baldy was returned to the Cavalry Department in Washington D.C.to

recuperate and then was returned

to service. General George Meade saw Baldy in the Quartermaster Department and bought him in September, 1861 for \$150. General Meade rode Baldy throughout the



Civil War until the battle of Gettysburg. From the first combat service in Dansville, Virginia, December 20, 1861 until his final service in Gettysburg, July 1 and 2, 1863, he was constantly in battle. He got wounded many times and recuperated to come back into battle to continue to fight. Previously,

it seemed, that Baldy was able to come back after he was wounded but this time after getting a ball on his right side, passing through the saddle flap of General Meade (missing his leg) and into Baldy's stomach he was taken out of service to recover. Baldy was sent by rail to Meade's friend Captain Samuel Ringwalt who cared for him on his farm in

Downingtown until he recovered but Baldy never went back into battle.

"Old Baldy" and General Meade were seen riding around Fairmount Park. When

Zeke Army Mule Meade passed Baldy was the rider less horse

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2

in the funeral procession. "Old Baldy" lived ten years longer after Meade's death, dying December 16, 1882. On Christmas Day Albert Johnson and Harry W. Hervey, members of Meade Post #1 GAR of Philadelphia, exhumed the body to take his head and front huffs. Mounted on a black shield,



noting all the battles he was in and the wounds he suffered (the information on the left side of the shield is correct but not all the information on the right). The men presented the mounted head and front huffs to Post #1 GAR of Philadelphia.

"Old Baldy" and General George Meade heading into battle was part of a monument in West Fairmount Park. This equestrian statue is located on Lansdowne Drive, behind the

Please Touch Museum. All members need to visit General Meade on "Old Baldy" since we are all part of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table and "Old Baldy" is part of our history.



It was time to go to the second floor to hear Walt Lafty's presentation on the Battle of Stone River. Thanks to our members we can say we had more people listening to Walt then from the GAR members. Walt

explained that Lincoln was under a lot of pressure to get a Union Victory to boast moral and support for the Emancipation Proclamation which would go into effect January 1, 1863. It was a busy month in the Civil War.

On December 26, 1862, the Union Army left Nashville to meet the Confederate who were camped in Murfreesboro, 30 miles away from Rosecrans's Army in Nashville. Rosecrans and Bragg were to cut off the Confederate supply lines and escape routes. Although the Confederate divisions had plans to drive the Union Army back to the Stone River and cut off the Union main supply routes on the Nashville Pike along with the Nashville/Chattanooga Railroads. As they approached the river it bisected both armies. As they were preparing for battle there was music playing on both sides to raise spirits. It was when one of the soldiers played "Home Sweet Home" that the air was full of soldiers joining in the refrain.

The armies Christmas cheer did not last long, as dawn approached the Confederate units began attacking the Union soldiers in front of them. General Philip Sheridan and his men along with the support of General James Negley's Division were part of the fighting. The battle increased and by noon the Confederate divisions assaulted the Union from three sides. All three of Sheridan's Brigade Commanders were killed, including General Rosecrans, or mortally wounded with the Union soldiers losing more than one third of their men. This battle became known as the "Slaughter"

Pen". Sheridan was so upset that there were so many men dead that they could not get to the bodies. Although fighting continued on the 31st. The battle wounds and death were so great that this area became known as "Hells Half Acres".

After reorganizing the troops and getting additional provisions and ammunition, the men became a fighting unit ready for battle. January 2, 1863, General Bragg ordered Breckinridge to attack men who were occupying a hill overlooking McFadden's Ford (east side of the river). They took the hill but as they were marching toward the ford 57 Union Cannons were facing the troops. In 45 minutes more than 1800 Confederate were killed or wounded as you can imagine none of the Confederate's reached the river. The army of Tennessee gave up and retreated.

Walt emphasized that this battle was the bloodiest of the war. It was a defensive battle with more than 3000 men dead and 16,000 wounded. The two armies sustained nearly 24,000 casualties. After the fighting the men from General Rosecrans' army and thousands of contraband slaves constructed Fortress Rosecrans as a supply depot and base of occupation for the Union.

Lincoln, himself, said in a telegram to his Generals, in 1863, "I can never forget, if I remember anything, that at the end of last year and the beginning of this, you gave us a hard earned victory, which if there had been a defeat instead, the country scarcely could have lived over."

The visit to the GAR Museum was a rewarding day for our members both talking about "Old Baldy" and hearing about the Battle of Stone River with Walt's presentation. With all the artifacts to view in the museum other visits are certainly needed to see everything on display. Thanks to Andy and Walt for a memorable day of Civil War history.



Just a note: I had the privilege of sitting on General George Meade's chair while listening to "Old Baldy's story. There are not many visitors who get a chance to sit in Meade's chair.



Old Baldy's Members visiting the GAR

Monument Man: The Life and Art of Daniel Chester French

Daniel Chester French

By Harold Holzer

Born in Exeter, New Hampshire to Henry Flagg French, lawyer and judge, and Anne Richardson, daughter of the Chief Justice of New Hampshire, Daniel Chester French

came into this world with aspirations of becoming one of the most important sculpture of public monuments. At age ten, 1860, the family moved to Concord, Massachusetts. Neighbors like Ralph Waldo Emerson, the Alcott family and many other important people were part of Daniel's life. It was May Alcott, sister of Louisa May Alcott who helped influence Danial in his decision to pursue sculpting.

The family went through the Civil War years peacefully. By age 16, his father turned to farming and Daniel helped.

While working in the gardens he sometimes would stop to grab a turnip, a piece of clay, wood or gypsum and begin carving or whittling which was his first attempt at sculping. He was trying to find his artistic side which was influenced by the community of writers, philosophers and painters that were always around him. Unlike some budding artists in their early days, Daniel's father encouraged him in his artistic pursuits. It was not to say that Henry French did not want to see his son as the "Honorable Chester French" but seeing Daniel and his artistic ideas coming to light he went from judgeship to encouraging an artist.

Daniel Chester French

To help follow his dream, Daniel enrolled in three-week lessons at May Alcott's Art School and began formal training learning to use carving and professional tools, using calipers for measurement, craft lead-pipe for irrigating the clay, along with wooden braces to support sculpted work. He went on to enroll in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston. His father's disappointment was evident when he failed all his studies. It seemed that studying with individual artists like John Quincy Adams Ward in Brooklyn, New York was a better way for him to learn. Ward became an inspiration to Daniel and encouraged him, by 1871, to attend classes at New York's National Academy of Design. He studied art anatomy for sculpture and painting with William Rimmer, copying human and animals in pencil. He went on to study with William Morris Hunt from Boston. It was when he started doing three-dimensional clay models, sketching was left behind, and Daniel began learning more about the sculpture process.

In 1874, Daniel decided to continue his art education abroad in Italy and for two years worked with Thomas Ball. Before leaving for Italy he got his first commission, a Minuteman sculpture to stand on the Concord side of the North Bridge, where men returned fire against the British on April 19, 1775, known as the "Shot heard round the world". The sculpture was completed by the 100th Anniversary of the Battle on April 19, 1875. It was placed over a time capsule, a copper box with maps, relics, photos of the statue and the sculptor. It was the first time Daniel Chester French saw his name on any public monument. Today, the Minuteman statute is in the Minuteman Historical Park in Concord. Daniel Chester French, 25 years old, was praised for his work and the town of Concord was grateful for what he did for the town. Even though Daniel was not there for the dedication, he was already in Italy, there were many



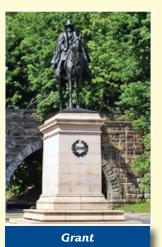
Shot Heard Around the World

who attended. Abolitionist Wendell Phillips explained, "So full of life and movement that one fears he shall not see it again if he passes that way the next week."

This statue was that lifelike.

The Minuteman sculpture was the beginning of his long life of producing masterpieces for the United States and the World. The World's Columbian Exposition located in Chicago, Illinois in 1893 French did three sculptures: The Teamsters, The Columbus Quadriga and The Repub-

lic. In 1904 in St. Louis, Missouri, French contributed his sculpture in the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Some of French's works are Peace and War or Vigilance on the US Custom House and Post Office in St. Louis, Missouri 1877: Model of Ralph Waldo Emerson in the Concord Free Library Concord, Massachusetts 1911-14: John Harvard in front of Memorial Hall Harvard University 1884: John



Adams 1890 Senate Chamber United States Capitol, Washington, D.C.: George Washington located at the Place d' lenu in Paris. France. There are three statues in Fairmount Park: Ulysses S. Grant 1892-99: Law, Prosperity, and Power: and General George Meade at the top of the right column of the Smith Memorial Arch 1878-82. What is listed is only a small portion of the works produced by Daniel Chester French. He was the founding trustees of the American Academy in Rome and of the Metropolitan



Meade on Smith

Museum of Art in New York City. Daniel had honorary degrees from Harvard, Yale and Columbia University. The Academy of St. Luke in Rome, the Fine Arts Class of the French Academy in Paris and the National Academy of Design in New York all elected him to become a member.

The greatest accomplishment of his long and productive career was when he was asked to design a statute of Lincoln in the memorial building being designed by Henry Bacon. This

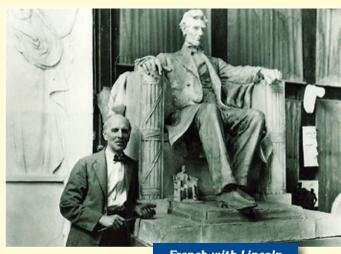
was a joint project between French and Bacon that took 8 years to complete. French's statue of Lincoln is the most famous sculpture ever created by an individual American and the largest, 19 feet in height and 200 tons in weight. This memorial is the most frequently visited, a cherished icon, and the most reproduced of a national sculpture. The seated Lincoln shows compassion and firmness, peace and war. His left hand is a clenched fist and his leg is so positioned to look like he was about to stand while his right leg relaxed with his hand open preparing to write down the words of his Second Inaugural.



On May 22, 1922 was the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial. The African American people were so excited to be part of this dedication that they arrived early, with over 50,000 people in attendance. Abraham Lincoln, Father Lincoln, the Great Emancipator would be shocked at the way they were treated that day. The Superintendent of the Office of Public Buildings (Southern born) instructed the

soldiers with guns and bayonets to get the early people out of their chairs and into a "colored section" at the far end of the grounds, "roped in from the rest of the Audience".

How ironic that a group of "grey-clad survivors of the Confederate Army" were in special seats of honor alongside Union veterans while the African American people were treated in a "Jim-Crow way" on a day devoted to Lincoln. The only African American speaker was Robert Russa Moton, principal of the all-black Tuskegee Institute. His



French with Lincoln

speech was censored by the White House and if he did not change his speech he would be off the stage. Taft, chairman of the Lincoln Memorial Commission spoke and then President Warren G. Harding. Robert Lincoln was also in attendance on stage.

Dr. Martin Luther King spoke at the Lincoln Memorial at the 1963 March on Washington D.C.: Marion Anderson sang at the steps of the memorial on Easter Sunday, April 9, 1939. The crowd was over 75,000, the most since Charles A. Lindbergh came back from Paris. It was not until 1939, 17 years later, that the monument was thought of something greater than just a memorial to Abraham Lincoln.

Daniel Chester French was near the end of his life and his greatest accomplishment, the sitting Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial, was a huge part of his legacy. French was an optimistic person and artist saying, "Look for goodness, not evil. Look for cheer, not trouble. Look for beauty, not ugliness." Daniel died in Stockbridge, Massachusetts in 1931 at the age of 81. He is buried in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Concord, Massachusetts.

> This article gave much information about Daniel Chester French but by reading his biography there is information on his artwork, his private life, and home called Chesterfield. He was such a talented artist and because of his father's encouragement produced many inspiring icons for all of us to look at, admire and appreciate. Daniel Chester French was a re-

markable artist of his time and continues to be recognized for all his

outstanding art work today and into the future.



Harold Holzer

Catto event February 22nd For Informationn https://generalmeadesociety.org/upcoming-events/

Meet Sinbad the Sailor!

By Kathy Clark, Member OBCWRT

The Coast Guard Cutter, Campbell, had a unique member of the crew. Sinbad the Sailor, a mixed breed of Bulldog, Doberman, Pincher, and whatever else who became the mascot of the ship. He was brought on board by Boatswain's Mate "Blackie" Roth. "Blackie" brought the pup on board in a duffel bag. He had given the pup to his girlfriend as a companion while he was away at sea, but the landlord would not let her keep the dog. So, what was he to do! That is how Sinbad came to be apart of the crew. After barking while in the bag, the dog was introduced to the crew and the sailors decided to keep him on board, naming him "Sinbad the Sailor". The captain agreed to having the dog on the ship if the men took care of him.

Sinbad became an enlisted member of the crew with a uniform, a service record and rank, Dog 1st Class! The crew even made him a hammock to sleep in so he would be stable at night during his Atlantic service. Some of his favorite times were mess hall, learning the daily routine of the ship and, like the other crew members, enjoying shore leave. It was during one of his times on shore that he almost caused an international incident while on leave in Greenland. The Campbell was in Greenland to secure diplomatic ties with the Danish people living on the island. During WWII, Nazis overrun the Danish territory as a result was being patrolled and watched by the United States.

Sinbad loved his leave in Greenland but not so much the sheep grazing in the pasture. The problem became when Sinbad liked to chase them around the pasture. It caused the sheep to be nervous and some died of shock of seeing a dog chasing them. The locals were not happy and wanted Sinbad shot. Captain heard what was happening and Sinbad was issued an order that he was never to set his paws on Greenland again.

When war broke out, the Campbell was transferred to the Navy. February 22, 1943, the Campbell was protecting a convoy in the North Atlantic. German submarines were surrounding them, and one struck a Norwegian steamer sending the crew in the water. The Campbell rescued the crew but that was not the end of the submarine activity when a periscope was spotted. The sub was destroyed by the Campbell causing all the crew to escape to the surface. The ship picked up survivors.

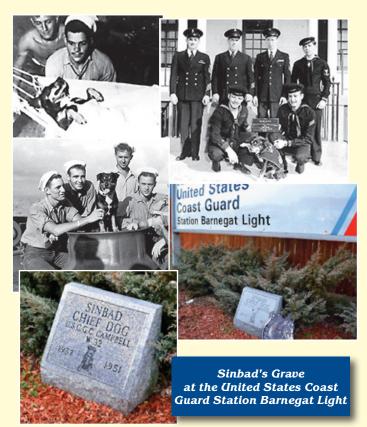
As the Campbell continued her wartime service, Sinbad stayed on board for the entire length of the war. He was made Chief Dog after serving as Dog 1st Class for six years. After eleven years at sea, he was officially transferred to the Barnegat Light Small Boat Station and served the remainder of his service at Barnegat until he passed away on December 30, 1951. Sinbad was buried with honors.

During his service he almost caused two international incidents, Greenland and Casablanca, fought submarines, drank whiskey, beer and strong black coffee just like the men. Sinbad's duty was to cheer up every sailor he met. He continued that service until his last days at the station with his fourteen years of service. In 1990, Sinbad was made

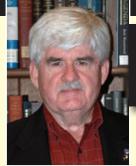


a Cutterman after his service on the Coast Guard Cutter, Campbell.

Sinbad was first interned under the flagpole near the Coast Guard Station but later he was moved to under the sign. Today the headstone is nearer to the street where a person can see it looking through the fence under the Coast Guard sign. I had the opportunity to get into the area to see his tombstone up close. Thanks to the two young Coast Guard Officers that happen to be present to open the gate. As we remember our fine men and women who keep us safe during wars and at peace time, we should also remember our animal comrades who also served with these brave men during difficult times. These animals gave their unconditional support and sometimes their lives to all the men they served.



"Mr Old Baldy" We Will Miss You...



In Remembrance of Michael Cavanaugh A Founder of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

When I was researching General Meade's valiant horse, Old Baldy,

Mike generously sent me a copy of his article on Baldy; and later followed up with an offer to answer any further questions. I certainly appreciated his time and consideration towards someone he didn't even know. His rare blend of humility, brilliant mind and down to earth kindness truly was an inspiration to those working alongside in the Civil War community, and I'm sure to his beloved family. Mike was a giant in our field and has left in his wake a rich legacy of historical knowledge, scholarship and personal honor. He will be sorely missed.

Most Sincerely, Nancy Bowker

I knew Mike since joining Old Baldy in the early 1990s. Mike was a pillar of Old Baldy. Even in the dark days when we were struggling to get members to our monthly meetings, Mike was always there. He was also helpful. When I wrote my first Civil War article, I had a question about the identity of the soldiers who were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for capturing the 9th VA flag at 5 Forks. Mike suggested writing to the National Park Service Petersburg office and they answered right away.

One final thought. In 1998, I went to Antietam and stayed at the Piper House where Longstreet had his HQ. After signing in, the proprietor and I got to talking and I mentioned I was with the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table. "Interesting," he said. "We just had two members of your Round Table here last week." "Who were they?" "Mike Cavanaugh and Steve Wright." While perhaps incidental, I always liked that connection.

RIP Mike. Jim Heenehan

I have known Mike Cavanaugh for so many years going back to the MOLLUS War Library on Pine Street in Philadelphia. Mike had a wonderful knowledge and understanding of history. When the GAR Post 2 Memorial Hall closed, a portion of the relics were taken to what is now the Grand

Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Library. Before there was a museum, Mike helped form SUVCW Camp 200 and worked diligently to save the relics and historical documents.

Over the years he would often contact me and ask if there was anything he could do to help the GAR Museum. He graciously donated many books and a beautiful Don Troiani framed print that now is in a place of honor on the third floor of the museum.

While I had not seen Mike for some time, I know that his thoughts of supporting history were always first on his mind. He was a fine man and friend who will be missed by all in the history community.

Herb Kaufman

In the nearly 30 years I knew Mike, one thing I came to learn and respect about him was his insistence that in our studies of history, we should stay true to the facts. We should avoid the passed-down, perpetuated "legends" that may not be supported by the true facts, and anything less than first-hand research from known and documented sources may not be correct. And if it's not, then it's not real history.

Only once in all those years did Mike and I ever have a few hot, contentious words. What it was about, frankly, escapes me now, and was likely not all that important anyway. I may have stewed over it for a while, but the next time we met, our eyes connected, and we quickly knew "enough of this"!

Out of our mutual respect for one another, it was over — and an appropriate time to lift a Guinness or two!

Mike -- you are missed. Harry Jenkins

As a founder Mike was the longest serving member, conscience and historian of our Round Table. He was well known in the Civil War community across the nation. He was always helpful and supportive in my dealings with him. Especially when I visited Eastern PA CWRT to promote a luncheon or Symposium Old Baldy was hosting, Susan and him welcomed us. Two memories come to mind. First in December 2008 when Steve Wright and Mike cornered me to tell me I had to move up to President since Steve had to step down. Mike promised that there was a Lexus to go with the job. I reminded him of that *each* time I saw him in the last 11 years, as I am still waiting for it. Guess Steve will have to fulfill the promise! Second was when we were able to honor Mike in January 2015 with an luncheon for all











Continued on page 8









the work and effort he put into our Round Table and the Civil War community over the last fifty years. Naming our book award after him and presenting it in 2016 with Mike in attendance was a treat for our Round Table. Mike will be missed but we will carry on in his memory to grow the Old Baldy CWRT to the level Mike raised it to and beyond!

Rich Jankowski

I recall that Mike was a speaker at the First AMART symposium. He coordinated several WWII seminars that we were involved in. Mike was an author and a great friend, and most importantly, he was a great encouragement to me.

Hugh Boyle

Mike was always very kind and of course very knowledgeable. He, as am I, was a General Hancock fan. I met Mike back in the 90s when I got involved with the restoration of the Hancock tomb. He was involved back in the 70s with the first restoration of the tomb.

Paula Gidjunis

I first met Mike when I went to volunteer at the CWLM after losing my job. He was one of the people who encouraged me to continue with my research on the CW horses. I looked forward to his emails titled "Another horsie name" every time he came across a horse's name while reading his books. Listening to Mike, John Craft and Steve Wright sharing their knowledge on so many topics of the CW, I became more interested and also became more active in the CWLM and the Old Baldy roundtable. I will always remember fondly my days working there, it was as if they adopted me from day one. I will remember our Saturday museum tour days, my "mourning" Old Baldy, our lunches and dinners at Towne Pizza, the roundtable meetings during my many years there and doing mailings for the museum and events when Mike, along with his grandson, brought boxes of envelopes to my mother's house. She helped us fold flyers and stuff the envelopes - and she loved doing it! And of course we always had Guinness available. But most of all I will remember what a wonderful friend I had in Mike. I will miss him very much.

Nancy Caldwell

I first met Mike at my first visit to the CWML for a CW Round Table meeting, just moving to the area and not knowing I met this great bunch of people and one stood out... Mike Cavanaugh a very gracious gentleman. There were these great meetings of standing room only or sit on the steps to the fourth floor. There were great Annual Dinner meetings and CW fund raisers. A lot of this was do to Mike and Steve Wright for their friends and connections to the Civil War community of which they shared with us

and the fact that we would have maybe never met a lot of CW authors and experts not to name ED Bearss.

Those great Dinners at the "Gourmet" Towne Pizza. Mike's stories of his career as a detective. His driving around town with "Old Baldy" in his car (to get cleaned up). Battlefield trips and tours and best of all the CW knowledge he liked to share. His founding of the Civil War Book Exchange which has become "The Civil War News". Mike and Steve's dedication and work on placing a monument to Brigadier General John Gibbon on the Gettysburg Battlefield.

When the Old Baldy Round Table had to look for a new home we ended up at the Union League (who were a great host). Our member participation started to drop off and Mike and Susan moved to Allentown... but that wasn't far enough for Mike. He kept attending the meetings and when we got down to 5 - 6 members at a meeting (one was Mike) a suggestion was made to try and save Old Baldy and move to New Jersey. Mike fully supported the idea not to disband but give it a try and with Mike's support Old Baldy has become what it is today (back on top). When and where ever I went... to Civil War seminars, battlefield tours and lectures from one end of this country to the other people knew about the "Old Baldy Civil War Round Table".

After I took over the newsletter Mike use to say it was the best newsletter in the country... I don't know about that, but it became the best in Jersey...

and working with and knowing Mike will always be in my memories...

Don Wiles

I am really at a loss for words to express my feelings about Mike. I learned more about CW history the first time I was in Mike's presence than what was taught me in all my years in school. My first few times attending Old Baldy meetings opened up an entire new interest in our Nation's history for me. I remember being really impressed with Mike's knowledge and his sense of humor. We all owe much to Mike and his loss is greatly felt. I extend my sympathies to his wife Susan and to the entire Cavanaugh Family for their great loss.

Bill Holdsworth



From L-R Pat Purcell, Ted Alexander, Steve Wright, Ed Bearss, Mike Cavanaugh Mike's service was very good yesterday. There were eight members of our Round Table present and a former member who is now in Virginia, Ed Haggerty.

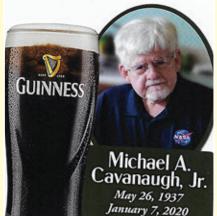
Harry and I talked with Ed at the lunch afterward. He may have some history for us.

These are photos Bill Holdsworth took at the cemetery and a copy of Mike's card.

Susan was happy to hear we will be awarding the MAC Book award this year.







Women in the Civil War

by Tom Ryan*

Julia Dent Grant



In 1844, when Cadet Ulysses "Sam" Grant visited the Missouri home of his West Point classmate, Fred Dent, he met Fred's sister Julia. Grant admitted that for him "it was love at first sight," while Julia showed a definite interest in this shy, sensitive visitor who arrived at their home on horseback like a "young prince."

Years later, Julia recorded in her memoirs, "General Grant was the very nicest and handsomest man I ever saw." In an example of how love can conquer all, Julia and Ulysses grew up in two different worlds.

Julia's family owned slaves at their White Haven plantation and her father was a die-hard secessionist at the time of the Civil War; while Grant's middle-class parents were hard-working abolitionists from Ohio. Julia and Ulysses forged a life-long partnership, despite retaining personal views about the slavery issue that paralleled those of their parents.

In "The Generals Wife: The Life of Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant," Ishbel Ross explains that mutual fondness for horseback riding deepened the attraction between Julia and Ulysses. She was an accomplished rider on her Kentucky mare named Missouri Belle, while his natural affinity earned him recognition as the best in horsemanship at the military academy.

In addition, these two young people discovered they both enjoyed gardening, and that Ulysses was a farmer at heart. They also shared an interest in drawing; she focused on flowers and landscapes, while he sketched horses. From observing this young officer during his visits to White Haven, Julia's mother sensed that Ulysses would one day "make his mark" in this world. Her father, despite concerns about Julia's suitability to be the wife of an army officer, agreed to their marriage in 1848.

Julia had attended a private boarding school in St. Louis for seven years beginning at age ten where she studied history, philosophy and mythology; and, having "a sweet little voice," took instrumental and vocal lessons. She absolutely refused "to look at the multiplication table," but loved to spend time reading.

Lying on the lawn one Sunday afternoon, Julia remembered, the girls from the school discussed the men they hoped to marry. Julia "declared emphatically a soldier, a gallant, brave, dashing soldier," and, of course, she got her wish

Julia gave birth to four children, including Fred in 1850, Ulysses in 1852, Ellen in 1855, and Jesse in 1858. Though neither pretty nor witty, Julia thrived on social interaction, while Ulysses was quiet and introspective. She often accompanied him on assignment during the Civil War years. His staff considered her a stabilizing factor as Grant formulated strategies on the battlefield as general in chief of the Union army.

As First Lady after Grant won the presidential election in 1868, Julia thrived during eight years in the White House. She was unsuccessful in convincing her husband to run for a third term, however, because he had enough of Washington politics.

After the White House years, Julia and Ulysses travelled around the world for two years. They went as private citizens, yet kings, generals, and cabinet officials received them royally in many countries they visited.

Julia wrote in her memoirs (edited by John Y. Simon): "On May 17, 1877 ... sailed from Philadelphia for England ... wharves along the Delaware [River] were literally lined with people whose shouts filled the air." They arrived in Liverpool, where the "Mersey [River] was filled with shipping and decked with flags. There was a perfect sea of faces ... all looking toward us with kindly or interested expression."

They enjoyed similar experiences in cities and towns on three continents. Upon return to San Francisco on September 20, 1879, "a procession of ships ...escorted us through the Golden Gate to San Francisco." Julia noted, "From the pier, we drove through vast throngs of people who greeted the General with enthusiastic cheers...."

Julia lived 17 more years after her husband's death in 1885. In response to the humorous question, "Who's buried in Grant's tomb?" — the proper answer is "Julia Dent Grant and her husband, Ulysses."

Margaretta Sergeant Meade



The wife of a high-ranking Civil War general descended from a long line of Pennsylvania politicians. Her father, John Sergeant, was Henry Clay's National Republican Party running mate in the 1832 U.S. presidential election against the Democratic Party's Andrew Jackson.

John Sergeant's daughter, Margaretta (known as "Margaret"), married George Gordon Meade on Dec. 31, 1840. George Meade had graduated from West

Point in 1835, but resigned his commission four years later to pursue a career in engineering.

After his marriage to Margaret, George rejoined the army and served during the Mexican War. When several states seceded from the Union in 1860-1861, Meade became a brigadier general commanding three Pennsylvania brigades.

Absent a personal memoir or copies of her correspondence, we glimpse Margaret's life through George's letters to her, which reflect her interest and participation in his military career.

From "Life and Letters of General George Gordon Meade," which their son and grandson compiled and published in 1913, we learn that George Meade confided his feelings about military strategy and tactics and political issues to his wife. Their Democratic Party allegiance was at times contrary to the Republican President Abraham Lincoln's policies.

Intermarriage between Northerners and Southerners was common, thereby complicating reaction to the growing national divide. Margaret's sister Sarah married Henry A. Wise, who was governor of Virginia until 1860 and served as a Confederate general during the Civil War.

As the Civil War escalated by December 1861, Meade expressed thoughts about the slavery issue. As a Democrat who was fighting to save the Union and not to end slavery, he was happy to see "old Abe" Lincoln restraining Secre-

tary of War Simon Cameron from coming out openly in favor of abolition.

Meade's letters to Margaret often mentioned his desire for advancement and promotion to higher rank, and included evidence of his battlefield accomplishments. Margaret Meade may well have used this information lobbying behind the scenes to further her husband's career.

Following the Battle of Antietam in September 1862, Margaret informed George that the public viewed him as a hero. Taking that in stride, Meade responded, "I fear it will take more than newspaper correspondents and your great love to make me believe I am anything more than an ordinary soldier conscientiously doing his duty."

Margaret Meade expressed concern about their son George, who was a lieutenant in the 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry. Her husband dismissed her fears with the thought, "He will have a comparatively pleasant time," because "We have not lost a dozen cavalry officers since the war began." When George Gordon Meade became a major-general in December 1862, Secretary of War Edwin Stanton passed word of his promotion to him through his wife, Margaret. George acknowledged to Margaret that Stanton was sending a signal he "would make you a major-general if he could, and, that you had made me" because of her family's political prominence.

In June 1863, Meade told Margaret that President Lincoln had appointed him commander of the Army of the Potomac, and that he was moving toward a battle with Gen. Robert E. Lee's army in Pennsylvania that "will decide the fate of our country and our cause ... [despite] how reluctant we both have been to see me placed in this position." When Meade defeated Lee at Gettysburg but allowed his army to escape back across the Potomac River to Virginia to fight another day, Lincoln expressed disappointment directly to Meade. When Meade reported that to Margaret, she was indignant about the president's treatment of her husband.

By the end of 1863, Lincoln had assigned Ulysses S. Grant as general-in-chief of the Union army. Grant retained Meade as commander of the Army of the Potomac but traveled with the army to urge it forward against the enemy. As a result, Meade's days in the limelight ended, and he dutifully followed Grant's orders until Lee's forces surrendered at Appomattox, Va., in April 1865. When the war ended, Margaret Meade went to Washington from Philadelphia for the Grand Review in which her husband led the Army of the Potomac down Pennsylvania Avenue.

As described in Freeman Cleaves' biography "Meade of Gettysburg," Margaret Meade attended a Harvard University ceremony in July 1865 that bestowed a doctor-of-laws degree on Meade with the citation: "...his courage and sagacity restored the fortunes of his country." Although he had not received the acclaim she believed he deserved for his service during the war, Margaret Meade was pleased the sentiments of this award honored Meade's accomplishments.

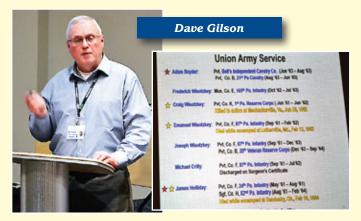
History Day Judges
March 7th at Rutgers Camden

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSft-_b27f-TSUWq3AA_0tYvfNy51RVJLImVaehL9jl_Rks2g/viewform

January 9th Meeting

"Members Sharing Night"

Three members of Old Baldy spoke about a topic that was close to their heart. They had done much research on their topic and wanted to communicate what they learned to the rest of the members.



Dave Gilson was our first speaker and talked about his "Family Genealogy and Gettysburg Connection".

There were three ancestors: Philip Schneider, William Wisotzkey and James Holliday. Philip lived on a farm just outside town, now preserved by the Park Service. His son Adam served in the same cavalry company as the first Union Soldier killed in Gettysburg. William had a grocery business in town and continued to operate even as a battle was brewing. The original log frame house was built ca. 1837-1842. There was also 2-storybrick duplex on South Washington Street occupied by another family member. James Holliday of Philadelphia fought on Culps Hill. Philip Schneider's farm on Warfield Ridge on Confederate Avenue and Emmitsburg Road was near Kershaw's Brigade at Gettysburg. Much fighting took place in this area and in pictures you can always see the farm in the distance. James Holliday was in the VI Corps and during the fighting MG John Sedgwick got a message from Meade, July 2, at 4pm for VI Corps to come up from Maryland via Baltimore Pike. Dave found that there is a list of his relatives on the Pennsylvania and other monuments. Dave has done a lot of work on finding his relatives and I am not sure I did the topic justice. With all of Dave's research, with more to come, the story will be continued.



Steve Newcomb presented: *My Civil War Odyssey,* "How Did I Get There?" Steve traveled to Gettysburg as

a boy with his family but does not remember very much about the trip. The second trip was when in took his family to Gettysburg and when the family came home all his daughter remembered were seeing the miniature horses. It was the third trip when Steve was older and meeting new friend Sonny (writer) and Don Campbell that made history come alive. Don always said, "History was like peeling an onion, one layer at a time."

Steve talked about James Madison Welsh who fought in the 5th New Jersey Volunteer infantry regiment lived in Millville, New Jersey. The family owned a home in Vineland and enjoyed life to the fullest. James fought with the 5th New Jersey at the battle of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. In the Diorama in Gettysburg Visitor's Center you can see at 4:30pm where many of the 5th New Jersey was killed in action. East of Route 15 there was a Gettysburg hospital where James Welch stayed to recuperate from his injuries. James then went home to get married. He returned to the 5th New Jersey but found that the 5th had become the 7th New Jersey. James M. Welsh is Steve's

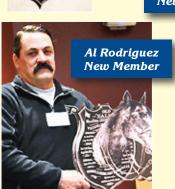


Our third presenter was Steve Peters and his "Family Military History about Columbia, Pennsylvania and Columbia Bridge". Columbia was a transportation hub and agriculture, 28 miles from Harrisburg. This area began as a Native American settlement called Shawtown from 1668-1724. By 1726, three families of missionaries who settled in this area and by 1730 there was a miller and sawmill. John Wright developed a ferry business called Wright's Ferry which was later changed to Columbia. In 1738, the London Peace Agreement established the Mason/Dixon Line. Samuel Wright laid out 160 lots to establish Columbia as a town in 1788. The town lost by only a few votes to become the Capitol of the United States. The first bridge across the river was built and destroyed by a storm, February 5, 1832. The people of Columbia started to build a canal system so that supplies could be moved easily by water. And Columbia Railroad was being built, later becoming the Pennsylvania Railroad and then Norfolk Southern. The second bridge was destroyed June 28, 1863, third bridge was destroyed by a hurricane, fourth bridge became an Iron Bridge. By 1852 there was a regular rail service between Baltimore and Philadelphia, Harrisburg to Pittsburgh.

By 1901, canal and ferry operations no longer in service, but today there is the Intercounty Bridge that is still standing. Columbia was also credited with Underground Railroad activity. It is a very patriotic city with several citizens of Columbia in the military and the Mt. Zion Cemetery with seven graves of the 54th Massachusetts and two Veterans of the 32nd USCT were laid to rest.

The enthusiasm of each speaker was communicated to all members attending. These were topics of importance to Dave Gilson, Steve Newcomb and Steve Peters. These stories now become part of topics that may interest us to want to find out additional information. There were several more speakers, but time ran out. Those presentations will be anticipated for another night of "Members Sharing **Night**". Stay Tuned!

> Awards and New recruits and Flat Old Baldy









Paul Prentiss 5 Year Award

Michael Bassett 5 Year Award

Gloucester County Historical Society

An Invitation to Old **Baldy Members**

John Leone, a member of Old Baldy and a trustee of the Gloucester County Historical Society, has invited members of Old Baldy to stop by the Society's museum on Broad Street in Woodbury. The museum has a war room with flag and diorama, the fireplace in front of which Betsy Ross was married and many Civil War artifacts. He notes that veterans can become members of both the library (home to one of the largest genealogical collections in South Jersey) and the museum at no charge - just present a VA card or copy of their DD214.

Continued on page 13

Please Support The G.A.R. Museum

Please consider attending the annual luncheon benefiting the museum on **Saturday**, March 21, 2020.

The Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Library is the only museum in this area that is solely dedicated to preserving the history and telling the story of the Civil

The collection is recognized for its historical significance and features numerous relics of singular historical importance including: General Meade's warhorse Old Baldy, handcuffs found in John Wilkes Booth's trunk after the assassination, the strip of the pillowcase and Lincoln's blood, Dr. Mary Walker's medical case, the bullet that killed Col. Edward Baker at Ball's Bluff, and the uniform of Col. DeWitt Clinton Baxter of the 72nd PA Infantry.

As members of the Old Baldy CWRT it is vitally important that we show our support for the museum. Please consider attending the annual luncheon benefiting the museum on March 21, 2020. This is so much more than a luncheon.

You will have a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet both old and new friends who share your interest in history; We have a great keynote speaker, historian and author of many Civil War books, Bradley Gottfried; you can explore the books and merchandise from Jim Schmick's Civil War and More; you will be eligible to win one of many great especially selected raffle prizes; and you will have an opportunity to purchase authentic Civil War relics. All this while also helping us to secure the future of the museum.

Please check out the luncheon notice and make your reservation. Without your support, this wonderful and historic museum may well become a thing of the past; only a memory.



Society for Women and the Civil War

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Society for Women and the Civil War (www.SWCW. org) will hold its 21st annual conference at the Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia, July 24-26, 2020.

This year's theme will be "The Women of the Valley." The keynote speaker will be distinguished author and consultant Jonathan A. Noyalas, Director of the McCormick Civil War Institute, Shenandoah University, Winchester, Virginia.

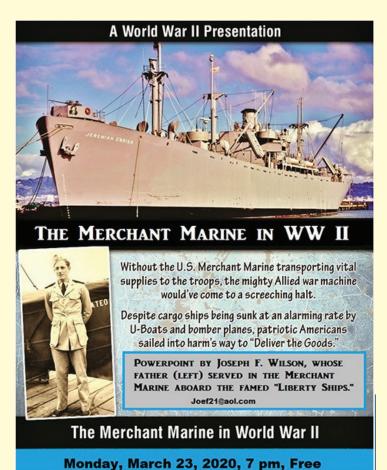
There will be additional presentations by noted scholars and tours of local sites of interest, emphasizing their roles relevant to the contributions of women during the various Civil War campaigns that took place in the Shenandoah Valley.

The conference is open to non-members.

For more information about the conference and to register, please visit www.SWCW.org

Museum information can be acessed on their website, https://www.gchsnj.org/:

Library – Tues. 6-9pm, Wed. through Fri. 12-4pm Museum – Wed. through Fri. 1-4pm First Saturday of each month: Library 10am – 3pm, Museum 12-4pm Last Sunday of each month: Library and Museum 2-5pm



The Center at Camden County College, Blackwood, N.J.

PowerPoint Presentation by Joseph F. Wilson. The presenter's father and uncle both served in the Merchant Marine in WW II.

"The Merchant Marine in WW II."

The patriotic civilians who sailed the cargo ships with war material in WW II have been forgotten.

Many were lost at sea as the enemy relentlessly hunted them down and targeted their ships.

These brave Americans served their country just as any soldier did in the Army or Navy.

Today, they're on the brink of receiving the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal.

The bill (HR 550) has already passed the house and now rest with the Senate. (S 133)

Congressman Donald Norcross (co-sponsor HR 550) is expected to attend.

Many family members whose fathers and grandfathers served will also be in attendance.

Come hear the harrowing tales of sailors at sea in WW II that are seldom told



The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College (CWI) would like to offer the members of Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable a 15% discount to attend the CWI Summer Conference from June 12-17, 2020. You can find registration details about our conference on our website and the full schedule of events. We believe in your mission, and we are making this special offer to recognize the efforts of your organization in promoting the study of Civil War history.

For more than 35 years, the Civil War Institute has hosted a premiere annual summer conferencebringing leading historians and diverse public audiences together for lectures, battlefield tours, small group discussions, and roundtable conversations about the Civil War era. Sessions, lodging, and meals are held on the 200-acre Gettysburg College campus, and there are part-time and full-time packages available.

For 2020, we are excited to feature leading Civil War scholars, Harold Holzer, Catherine Clinton, Brian Wills, Jeffry Wert, Carol Reardon, and Scott Hartwig within our lineup of more than 40 distinguished speakers and tour guides. The conference will feature a wide range of topics, including POW prison escapes, soldier impressment, the Civil War in the West, the guerrilla experience, and more. The 2020 program will also debut debates between leading scholars about Civil War generalship. This year's topics include George B. McClellan at Antietam, James Longstreet, and Nathan Bedford Forrest.

In addition to touring the Gettysburg battlefield, participants will also be able to visit other nearby battlefields and such as First Manassas, 2nd Fredericksburg and Salem Church, Antietam, Cool Springs, Spotsylvania, and Bristoe Station. Attendees who prefer a shorter, more physically active experience can choose to sign up for our new "active track" package, which features lectures and a day and a half of walking-intensive tours of the Gettysburg battlefield with historian Timothy Orr. The 2020 conference offers something for everyone, from longtime students of the Civil War to those who are new to Civil War history.

We would very much appreciate it if you could share this special conference offer with your membership in your own promotional materials, including your newsletter and website. Feel free to use the conference description in this email and to share the link to the conference: https://www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/.

Civil War Institute

300 North Washington Street Campus Box 435 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325-1400

717.337.6590

civilwar@gettysburg.edu www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/

The Grand Army Of The Republic Civil War Museum And Library

Invites All Museum Supporters and Civil War Enthusiasts to the

ANNUAL PRESERVATION LUNCHEON To Support The Only Dedicated Civil War Museum In Philadelphia

Saturday, March 21, 2020
12:00 noon - 3:30 PM
Cannstatter Volkfest Verein
9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114
(Intersection of Academy Rd. and Frankford Ave.,
at I-95 Academy Road exit)

Keynote speaker BRADLEY M. GOTTFRIEDNationally recognized historian and author

Presentation of the GRAND ARMY AWARD

** Three course Chefs Luncheon **
History books, videos, music featuring Jim Schmick

"Civil War & More." Free door prizes – Print raffles

DONATION: \$40.00 PP AND \$75.00 PER COUPLE *Reservations requested by March 13, 2020

Please make checks payable to GAR MUSEUM, and mail with reservation form below to: GAR MUSEUM, Attn: Herb Kaufman, 4278 Griscom Street, Phila., PA 19124.

To Reserve by EMAIL: shkaufman1865@gmail.com

Continued from page 2 - "Notes from the President"

We continue to visit other Round Tables on our *Outreach Program*. Last month we went out to Harrisburg and this month we are going down to Washington and Baltimore. Let us know if you want to join us on these adventures. Planning progresses on the *CWRT Congress* meeting, we are welcoming Round Table members from across the nation on September 18-20. **Tom Scurria** and **Sean Glisson** are working hard to bring our *Civil War Naval Symposium* into focus. Come hear their update on the 13th at our meeting.

The annual *Major Octavius V. Catto* event will be on February 22nd at 11 AM at his monument on the South front of City Hall in Philadelphia. Judges are still needed for the Regional competition of *New Jersey History Day* at Rutgers Camden on March 7th. You can volunteer at the link shown in the box in this newsletter. The *South Jersey History Fair* will be on June 13th. **Paul** and **Susan Prentiss** are organizing our celebration of Old Baldy's 168th birthday on May 16th at his statue in Fairmont Park. Watch for the details to be published soon.

Join us for pre-meeting conversation at the Lamp Post at 5:30 on the 13th.

Rich Jankowski, President

From the Treasurer's desk

Due to your support, we continue to be in good financial condition as we enter the new year.

Your membership has made it possible for all ofus to enjoy a year's worth of outstanding speakers thanks to our Program Coordinator, Dave Gilson.

Additionally, we have been able to continue our goal of providing donations to worthy organizations, including the following:

Memorial Hall Foundation
New Jersey Historical Society
Vineland Historical Society
The Center for Camden County College
Battleship New Jersey
GAR Civil War Museum
Wreaths Across America

In appreciation of your membership, we will be conducting a raffle in which the namesof all 2019 members will be placed in a hat, and the winning member drawn will receive a free year's subscription to "The Civil War Monitor Magazine".

Just a reminder, your 2020 Membership dues are due in January. Thank you for your continued support. \$25. regular dues \$35. Family membership

Frank Barletta
44 Morning Glory Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053

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

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT **Speakers and Activities for 2020** March 12, 2020 - Thursday **Paul Prentiss** "Damn the Torpedoes - The Battle of Mobile Bay" April 9, 2020 - Thursday Hampton Newsome "The Fight for the Old North State: The Civil War in North Carolina, January-May 1864" May 14, 2020 - Thursday Drew A. Gruber "The Battle of Williamsburg" Questions to Dave Gilson - 856-323-6484 - dgilson404@gmail.com. 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 Trustees: Treasurer: Frank Barletta **Paul Prentiss** Secretary: Sean Glisson Tom Scurria **Programs: Dave Gilson** Dave Gilson Membership: Arlene Schnaare Editor: Don Wiles - cwwiles@comcast.net