

Campaign 60
Skirmish 5
January 25, 2019

The Dispatch

Editor
Tracy Sommers
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Newsletter of The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table

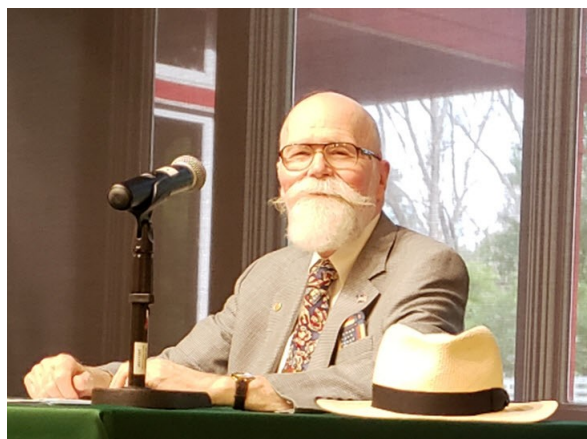
Welcome to our fellowship forum where we discuss our past, emphasizing remembrance, education & preservation.

Meetings held at The Radisson Penn-Harris Hotel—1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania
Online: www.HarrisburgCWRT.org

January 25 Speaker—Dr. Richard J. Sommers Generalship of Ulysses S. Grant

Dr. Richard (Dick) Sommers is well-known to the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table as a long-time member. Forty-three of his 48 years at HCWRT, he held office, as President for the 15th, 30th and 31st Seasons, as Program Chair for 32 Seasons and currently as a Director. Over the years Dr. Sommers has participated in or led multiple field trips, mini-talks and panel discussions, This will be his 9th full-fledged talk to us.

His newest book, *Challenges of Command in the Civil War* (hot off the press this past summer), analyzes Civil War generals at Gettysburg, Petersburg, and elsewhere. His 150th anniversary edition of *Richmond Redeemed: The Siege at Petersburg* earned the Army Historical Foundation's Distinguished Writing Award as the best expanded reprint book of 2014 on Army history. An Army War College "Distinguished Fellow" and the Army Heritage and Education Center's first "Senior Historian," he served at AHEC, 1970-2014, and still teaches in AWC. Dr. Sommers is a Carleton College graduate with a Rice University doctorate.



DINNER IS SERVED!

FRIDAY, January 25
Governor B—Hotel

6:00 pm—St. James Punch 6:45 pm—Dinner
7:45 pm—Meeting 8:00 pm—Talk

Menu Options:

(A) Cod Florentine
(B) Roast Top Sirloin

The dinner also includes

Chef's Soup, Tuscan Rolls and Butter,
Chef's Choice of dessert
Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$24 per person.

Dinner reservations must be made no later than 7 p.m.
Tuesday, January 22

Phone Sam Waldrop at 717-422-3007 or email at
hcwrt.membership@gmail.com

Executive Officers

President, Linda Meenaghan
Meenaghan1961@comcast.net

Vice President, Steve Smith
smith337@erau.edu

Treasurer, Norm Daniels
nld500@aol.com

Secretary, Ed Hicks
secretary@harrisburgCWRT.org

Web Links (CTRL + click)

www.harrisburgCWRT.org

Register For:

MEMBERSHIP

[www.harrisburgcwrt.org/
member.html](http://www.harrisburgcwrt.org/member.html)

FIELD TRIPS

www.harrisburgcwrt.org/info.html

Directors

Bruce Apgar

Joe Boslet

Jim Brommer

Rick Eiserman

Greg Hillebrand

Richard Sommers

Standing Committees

Audit, Kim Ledger

Communications/PR, Todd Little

Field Trip, Steve Smith

Membership, Sam Waldrop

Newsletter, Tracy Sommers

Nominating, Ed Hicks

Preservation, Curtis Wolf

Program, Al Mackey

Webmaster, John West

The President's Pen

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! The month of January is named for the Roman god Janus, who looked to the future at the same time as he looked to the past. We have much to look forward to in the year to come, while we look back at what we have accomplished since our Round Table was founded in 1959.

Our *ad hoc* technology committee is hard at work developing a new and much improved website to provide information on upcoming events and a photo gallery of past ones. It will tell our story to a wider audience and help attract new members.

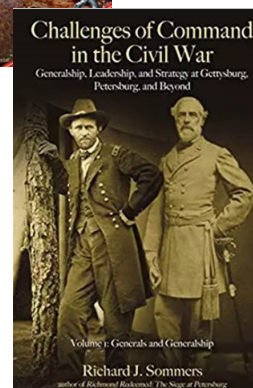
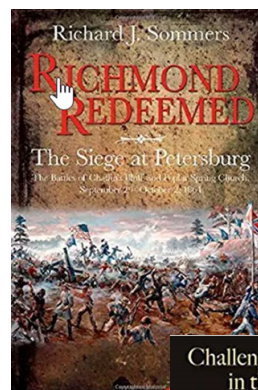
We look forward to our field trips in the spring and fall, to our 60th anniversary banquet in May, and most of all, to the fellowship we enjoy with our members at the monthly meetings. The "Square Table," which concludes each of our meetings, is unique among Civil War Round Tables and is a great opportunity to interact with our speakers and to learn more about a war that tore our nation asunder.

Make a New Year's resolution to attend as many of our meetings and events as possible in 2019—and bring a friend!

Steve Smith
Vice President

Books, Selected Articles and Talks by Richard Sommers

- ◆ "Richmond Redeemed: Enduring Lessons in Leadership from the Siege of Petersburg," Online Lecture, Army Heritage and Education Center, October 9, 2014.
- ◆ "The Tightening Noose," *Virginia At War, 1864*, 2009.
- ◆ "Stonewall Jackson," "George G. Meade," and "William T. Sherman," *The Art of War: Great Commanders of the Modern World (Vol. II)*, 2009.
- ◆ "Ulysses S. Grant" and "Petersburg Campaign," *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War (Vols. II and III)*, 2000.
- ◆ "Petersburg Besieged," *The Image of War, 1861-1865, (Vol. VI)*, 1984.
- ◆ "Fury at Fort Harrison," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, 1980.
- ◆ "The Battle No One Wanted," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, 1975.
- ◆ "The Dutch Gap Affair: Military Atrocities and Rights of Negro Soldiers," *Civil War History*, 1975.



Meeting Schedule—Campaign 60

2/22/19

Harrisburg Fugitive Slave Commissioner
Cooper Wingert, HCWRT Member

3/22/19

Treasures of Gettysburg from J. Howard Wert Collection
G. Craig Caba, HCWRT Member & Past President

4/26/19—Nye-Sommers Lecture

Sex and the Civil War Soldier
Dr. Judith Giesberg, Villanova University

5/17/19—60th Anniversary Banquet

Common Soldiers of the Civil War
Dr. Peter Carmichael, Gettysburg College

6/7/19

The Legacy of George G. Meade
Dr. Jennifer Murray, Oklahoma State University

Spring Field Trip Saturday, May 11, 2019
John Brown's Raid and the Battle of Harpers Ferry

John Brown's Raid on Harpers Ferry took place in October 1859 and was an effort by the ardent abolitionist to incite an armed slave revolt by taking over the town's arsenal and armory. Brown's raiding party of 22 was subdued by a company of U.S. Marines, led by First Lieutenant Israel Greene. Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Lee was in overall command of the operation.

Our guide will lead us on a comfortable walking tour (3/4 mile) of the Lower Town. This will include sites associated with the John Brown raid including John Brown's Fort, the US Armory and Arsenal, and the B&O RR Potomac River Bridge at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, which Brown's raiders crossed on their way into Harpers Ferry.

We will have lunch at the rustic Potomac Grille, overlooking the Potomac River. After lunch, our guide will take us on a short walking tour to examine Stonewall Jackson's positions and maneuvers during the September 1862 Battle of Harpers Ferry—the prelude to Antietam—that resulted in the largest surrender of US troops during the Civil War. This tour will include Camp Hill, Bolivar Heights Battlefield, and Schoolhouse Ridge Battlefield. A stop at the Harpers Ferry Visitors Center will conclude our visit.

Our guide, Dennis E. Frye, recently retired as Chief Historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, serving in that position for 20 years and earning the Department of Interior's highest honor, the "Distinguished Service Award." Mr. Frye has authored 10 books and 101 articles; his most recent book is *Antietam Shadows: Mystery, Myth & Machination*. He is a nationally known preservationist, having served as a co-founder and past president of both the Civil War Trust and the Save Historic Antietam Foundation. He is a tour guide in demand, leading programs for the Smithsonian, National Geographic, *The New York Times*, and dozens of universities and Civil War organizations. Mr. Frye also has made frequent national television appearances, including on the History Channel, Discovery Channel, C-SPAN, A&E, Fox News and Voice of America, and he has helped produce Emmy Award-winning programs on John Brown and Antietam. He has addressed more than 150 Civil War Round Tables during his 40 years as a lecturer and battlefield guide.

Price: \$95.00 per person. Includes round-trip motor coach transportation, driver and guide gratuities, lunch, and admission fees. Pick-up points are the parking lots of Hummelstown's Lower Dauphin High School (7:00 am) and the Camp Hill Radisson (7:30 am).

To Register: Complete the form below and mail it with your deposit to Norm Daniels, Harrisburg CWRT, 500 Bonneymeade Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17111. **Please make your check payable to: Harrisburg CWRT.**

Deposit: \$25.00 deposit holds your seat; balance due by April 11, 2019.

Cancellations: Received before April 11 will receive a full refund. After April 11 will receive a refund ONLY if the seat is filled by another person.

Questions: Ricky Hollis 717-805-7502 or rickyhollissr@gmail.com OR
Steve Smith, 717-433-0209 or smith337@erau.edu.

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Spring Field Trip Registration Form

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Number of Seats _____ Pick Up Point Lower Dauphin High School

Mail to Norm Daniels Camp Hill Radisson

Harrisburg CWRT

500 Bonneymeade Avenue \$25.00 deposit per seat enclosed



The Dispatch

The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table
PO Box 124
Mechanicsburg, PA

January, 2019

Gen. John W. Geary
Gettysburg NMP

Coming!

New web site almost ready. Preview: You will be able to make reservations on-line for dinner and field trips.

The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table

Where we discuss our past, emphasizing remembrance, education & preservation. **All Are Welcome!**

Meetings held (usually) the fourth Friday of the month at The Radisson Penn-Harris Hotel, Route 15, Camp Hill, PA

Online: www.HarrisburgCWRT.org



follow the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table on
Facebook and on Twitter @HBRGCWRT



Harrisburg Civil War Round Table Enlistment Form

Current Member Renewal

- Individual \$20
- Family \$30
- Full Time Student \$5

New Members Only

- Individual \$27 (includes badge)
- Family \$44 (includes two badges)
- Full Time Student \$7 (includes badge)

Individual or Family Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Contact HCWRT, Membership Chair, PO Box 124, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

Phone 717-422-3007, E-mail hcwrt.membership@gmail.com