

Campaign 61  
Skirmish 5  
January 24, 2020

# The Dispatch

Editor  
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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

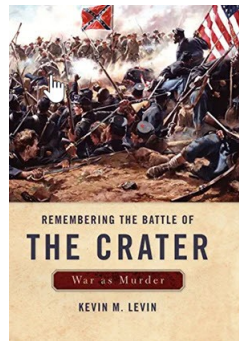
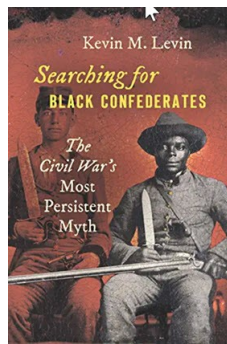
Online: [harrisburgcwr.org](http://harrisburgcwr.org)

## Friday, January 24—Kevin M. Levin

### Searching for Black Confederates: The Civil War's Most Persistent Myth

Kevin M. Levin is an historian and educator based in Boston. He is the author and editor of three books, including most recently, *Searching For Black Confederates: The Civil War's Most Persistent Myth*. Mr. Levin has an MA from the University of Richmond and writes the popular blog *Civil War Memory*.

This talk will explore how free and enslaved blacks were utilized for the Confederate war effort and how these accounts eventually morphed into mythical stories about black soldiers.



#### DINNER IS SERVED!

Friday, January 24  
Governor B—Hotel

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

#### Menu Options:

(A) Lasagna Rollup

(B) Lemon Rosemary Chicken

The dinner also includes

Chef's Soup, Tuscan Rolls and Butter

Dessert: Touch of Strawberry Cake

Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$24 per person.

**Dinner reservations must be made no later than 7 p.m.**

**Tuesday, January 21**

Make reservations on the website at [harrisburgcwr.org](http://harrisburgcwr.org)

Please back up your reservation with a phone call to Sam Waldrop at 717-422-3007 or email at

[hcwr.membership@gmail.com](mailto:hcwr.membership@gmail.com)

#### Executive Officers

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[Meenaghan1961@comcast.net](mailto:Meenaghan1961@comcast.net)

**Vice President**, Steve Smith  
[smith337@erau.edu](mailto:smith337@erau.edu)

**Treasurer**, Norm Daniels  
[nld500@aol.com](mailto:nld500@aol.com)

**Secretary**, Ed Hicks  
[secretary@harrisburgcwr.org](mailto:secretary@harrisburgcwr.org)

#### Web Links (CTRL + click)

[harrisburgcwr.org](http://harrisburgcwr.org)

#### Register For:

MEMBERSHIP  
[harrisburgcwr.org/member.html](http://harrisburgcwr.org/member.html)

FIELD TRIPS

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## The President's Pen

Happy New Year!

We are now at the halfway point of our 61st campaign. We have been treated to a fine slate of speakers with more to come. Those of you who missed December's meeting missed a great talk. Greg Hildebrand dressed up two members, Bruce Apgar and John West, as union and confederate soldiers to give us a better appreciation for a soldier's experience in camp and in battle. The meeting was followed by a lively discussion at the square table. I encourage all of you to attend our next meeting and square table.

Gettysburg starts its Winter Lecture series January 11, offering free lectures in the visitor center. Also, take advantage of the free lectures offered at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg.

The Spring Field Trip to Antietam is filling up fast. If you are planning on going, you will need to get your reservation in to hold your place on the bus. You will not want to miss this exciting trip with Dennis Frye.

See you at our January meeting; bring a friend!

Linda Meeneghan



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### Book Sale—Dick Sommers' Library

Reminder—an opportunity to add to your civil war book collection.

Saturday, January 18 — 10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center  
950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle.

Saturday is set aside as a special day just for Harrisburg Civil War Round Table members and the Army Foundation staff to shop. A selection of books from Dick Sommers' significant military library will be sold. The book sale will be open to the general public Sunday, January 19, from noon to 4:00 pm. Each book has a bookplate created by the Army Heritage Center Foundation indicating it is from the library of Dr. Richard J. Sommers.

Dr. Sommers' library included books written after the war by famous participants as well as more humble soldiers: first hand accounts, diaries, letters; regimental histories; Lincoln, Jefferson, Lee and Grant papers; Official Records; Civil War magazines; early and modern battle books, and more. The Union and Confederacy are equally represented.

Click on the link below and then click on the category that interests you for a full listing of books.

<https://www.armyheritage.org/news>



Remember to make dinner reservations at the new website, [harrisburgcwr.org](http://harrisburgcwr.org).

For a couple months, also let Sam Waldrop know your dinner selection.

Call: 717-422-3007 or email: [hcwrt.membership@gmail.com](mailto:hcwrt.membership@gmail.com)

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### Meeting Schedule—Campaign 61

2/28/20

*Little Round Top: "Hold That Ground at All Hazards"*

Joe Boslet, HCWRT Member

3/26/20 (Thursday)

*Hinsonville's Heros*

Cheryl Renee Gooch

4/24/20

*Abraham Lincoln*

Matt Pinsker

5/15/20—Nye-Sommers Lecture

*R. E. Lee*

Allen C. Guelzo

6/19/20

*Cold Harbor*

Bert Dunkerly

*Spring Field Trip—Saturday, May 2, 2020*  
*The Battle of the Antietam—Sharpsburg, Maryland*

Please join the Harrisburg and Hershey Civil War Roundtables on Saturday, May 2, 2020 as we visit Sharpsburg, Maryland, the site of the Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest single-day battle of the Civil War. On September 17, 1862, General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia and Major General George B. McClellan's Army of the Potomac faced off on the banks of Antietam Creek. Their armies suffered more than 23,000 casualties. The battle curtailed Lee's first invasion of the north, and laid the groundwork for Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which turned the war to save the Union into a war to set men free.

This field trip picks up where our highly successful field trip to Harpers Ferry in May 2019 left off. At the conclusion of that trip, our guide, Dennis Frye, made us an offer we couldn't refuse: to give us an encore performance at Antietam, a battle he knows like the back of his hand (he and his wife own and have restored Ambrose Burnside's post-Antietam headquarters south of Sharpsburg, where they now reside).

Dennis Frye is known for challenging convention and sparking provocation. This Antietam tour, based upon his book, *Antietam Shadows: Mystery, Myth & Machination*, is guaranteed to turn you upside down and inside out concerning your perceptions of Antietam. You may think you know Antietam, but you will see it differently after participating in Mr. Frye's dynamic tour.

**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 11 books and 104 articles. 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 Bonnymead Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17111. **Please make your check payable to: Harrisburg CWRT.**

**Deposit:** \$25.00 deposit holds your seat; **balance due by April 2, 2020**

**Cancellations:** Received before April 2 will receive a full refund. After April 2 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 Bonnymead Avenue

Harrisburg, PA 17111

\$25.00 deposit per seat enclosed



## The Dispatch

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

January 2020

Gen. John W. Geary  
Gettysburg NMP

### 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: [harrisburgcwr.org](http://harrisburgcwr.org)



Follow the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table on  
Facebook and on [Twitter@HBRGCWRT](https://twitter.com/HBRGCWRT)



### Harrisburg Civil War Round Table Enlistment Form

#### Current Member Renewal

- Individual \$24
- Family \$36
- Full Time Student \$5

#### \*\*New Members Only\*\*

- Individual \$34 (includes badge)
- Family \$56 (includes two badges)
- Full Time Student \$9 (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](mailto:hcwrt.membership@gmail.com)